

NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE

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OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK—Page twelve

JANUARY-MARCH 1957

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*In the Grand Canyon, Arizona has a natural wonder which, so far as I know is in kind absolutely unparalleled throughout the rest of the world. I want to ask you to do one thing in connection with it in your own interest and in the interest of the country —to keep this great wonder of nature as it now is. I was delighted to learn of the wisdom of the Santa Fe Railroad people in deciding not to build their hotel on the brink of the canyon. I hope you will not have a building of any kind, nor a summer cottage, a hotel, or anything else, to mar the wonderful grandeur, the sublimity, the great loneliness and beauty of the canyon. Leave it as it is. You cannot improve on it. The ages have been at work on it, and man can only mar it. What you can do is to keep it for your children, your children's children, and for all who come after you, as one of the great sights which every American if he can travel at all should see. We have gotten past the stage, my fellow citizens, when we are to be pardoned if we treat any part of our country as something to be skinned for two or three years for the use of the present generation, whether it is the forest, the water, the scenery.—THEODORE ROOSEVELT, Grand Canyon, May 6, 1903. *Theodore Roosevelt Cyclopedia.**

THE COVER

From a Kodachrome by the Editor

This view shows the Hoh River flowing through the rain forest on the west side of Olympic National Park, Washington. Established in 1938, the park is a nearly roadless wilderness of more than a thousand square miles. As early as 1909, the alpine country of the glaciated summits of the Olympic Mountains was designated as a national monument; but the monument area actually contained little of significance that already was not amply represented in a number of other national parks. However, just beyond and below the monument boundaries, particularly on the west slopes, was the rain forest, a magnificent, unique feature represented nowhere else in the system of national parks. As a truly superb work of nature, it was imperative that at least part of what still remained of that forest be placed under permanent protection, for much of it already had been cut by local lumber mills.

Since boundaries were extended and the area made a national park, spokesmen for the wood-using industries have attempted to have Congress return the merchantable areas of the park forest to the surrounding national forest, so as to make them available for logging. All such efforts so far have been defeated, and vigilance is required to see that they continue to be defeated.

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guarding America's heritage of scenic wilderness

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DEVEREUX BUTCHER, Editor

JANUARY - MARCH 1957

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Devereux Butcher

West from Grand Canyon's Kaibab Trail.—To one who looks upon the lovely "small proportions," the canyon never again seems quite so formidable.

IN SMALL PROPORTIONS

By HARRY C. JAMES, President
Desert Protective Council, Inc.

In dramatic contrast with the magnificent pageant of color and form that is Grand Canyon are the innumerable small scenes of surpassing delicacy that lie buried in its depths: a pool of water in an aspen grove of the Kaibab, mirroring the white clouds; a tiny cliff-dwelling in the Kaibab limestone, with a pictograph frieze of deer and bighorn sheep; the gentle rain of iridescent, cool water in an open cave, each drop transformed in catching the light so that it seems a globule of translucent gold against the blue-hazed depths below; the churning Champagne Pool, discreetly off the trail in Bright Angel Canyon, so that one can strip and swim in the seething froth of effervescence which domes up at the foot of a fluted pillar of water that carries the full flow and force of that most delightful of canyon rivers.

"In small proportions we just beauties see;
And in short measures life may perfect be."

A unique little waterfall in a side canyon of a side canyon is one of these scenic gems that compels me to return to Grand Canyon again and again. "Altar Falls" is the name by which I have long known it, but today an official national park sign designates it as "Ribbon Falls."

Five and a half miles above Phantom Ranch, a small footpath leads one from Bright Angel Trail into a cupped alcove. At once the eye is caught by an "altar" of moss-covered travertine, a stalagmite more than forty feet high, built up by the sparkling lime-rich waters of Ribbon Creek leaping free from the top of a 150-foot cliff.

As the water cascades from this height it beats full upon the top of the altar. Its

force spent, it streaks down over the deep emerald-green of the moss in undulating white ribbons. Here and there in the travertine are pockets filled with ferns and other moisture-loving plants. Once in mid-summer, up under a broken apron of the travertine, we came upon the deserted green-mossed, Hottentot-hut nest of a water ouzel.

The cirque is sculptured with small caves, decorated with travertine deposits, ideal refuges for visitors when a Grand Canyon thunderstorm pelts down. Back of the top of the altar a level sandy spot affords width enough for a sleeping bag. One endures the drenching mist when the moon rises and the alcove is flooded with glorious, all too short-lived displays of iridescence, shifting and fading in the smother of fine spray that fills the recess at all times.

So hidden away is this altared canyon chapel that the sun streams into it for only a few moments daily, even during the summer months. Thus even the most avid of photographers are denied opportunity for good color shots.

Up Bright Angel Canyon, a hundred feet or so beyond Ribbon Falls, an old Indian moccasin trail leads among the sharp, broken rocks of a talus slope to another waterfall that tumbles into a small basin through a break in the cliffs. There in the shallow caves to the left of the waterfall, Indians of long ago constructed small cliff dwellings.

These dwellings are in ruins now, but one likes to think that ancient Indian families were so intrigued by the charm of the setting that they gladly struggled to make their homes there. One pictures them cultivating their meager corn crops in the patches of sandy soil here and there below the dwellings, and still farther down in



Harry C. James

As the water of Ribbon Creek leaps from this height, it beats full upon the top of the altar.



Harry C. James

The dwellings are in ruins now, but one likes to think the ancient Indians were so intrigued by the setting that they gladly struggled to make their homes here.

Bright Angel Canyon itself. Park Naturalist Louis Schellbach believes the dwellings may have been occupied by Pueblo Indians about 1200 A.D.

Like the Navajos, those cliff dwellers of Ribbon Creek "walked in beauty," but, more, they *lived* in beauty.

Ribbon Falls can be reached by trail from either rim of Grand Canyon. From the north rim, one descends by the main trail past Roaring Springs to Bright Angel Creek and the powerhouse that generates electricity and pumps water to the rim, thousands of feet above. About two miles below the powerhouse there is a small campground by the stream. Just a few feet from this campground is the side trail to the foot of Ribbon Falls.

From the South Rim one reaches the falls by a long journey down the canyon trail to the suspension bridge across the Colorado River, then up Bright Angel Creek to Phantom Ranch, the Fred Harvey hostel in the bottom of Grand Canyon. From there it is about five miles up Bright

Angel Creek to the side trail to the falls.

The trip to Phantom Ranch can, of course, be made on horseback, with overnight accommodations available there for those who do not wish to camp out. But no visit to Grand Canyon is complete without spending one night under the stars. It is a soul-searching, a soul-stretching experience to sleep in the depths of the canyon, with the sequence of geologic ages rising above in the multi-colored cliffs.

To the Hopi Indians, Grand Canyon is a place of awe—a sacred place—the entrance to their mysterious heaven, the Underworld. The intimate beauties of Ribbon Falls are cut more to man's size. To one who has looked upon these lovely "small proportions," the canyon never again seems quite so mammoth, quite so formidable. Its enormous tapestry thereafter is symbolized for him by the relatively small inner canyon that holds the altar upon which slashing silver-white ribbons of water fall in patterns on the altar cloth of green moss velour.

SEASHORE RECREATION AREA SURVEY

DURING eighteen months in 1954 and 1955, the National Park Service conducted and completed a thorough study of our Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Mexico coasts to find out how much undisturbed wild shore remains along them. What the Service discovered can hardly be said to be heartening.

In its report, the Service says, "As late as 1935—just two decades ago—the National Park Service made a survey of the Atlantic and Gulf coasts and found plenty of unspoiled seashore areas suitable for public recreation. It recommended that twelve major strips, with 437 miles of beach, be preserved as national areas. These were superb tracts. There were plenty of others only a little less desirable, suitable for state and other reserves."

The report continues by saying that only one of the twelve was acquired as a national seashore (Cape Hatteras in North Carolina). All the others, except one, have long since gone into private and commercial developments. The demand for beach property is tremendous, and the prices for such

properties are rising all the time. A caption in the report says that "people's hunger for a cottage by the sea rapidly consumes the gleaming stretches of unoccupied beach that seemed almost inexhaustible only a few decades ago."

In the opinion of all who value natural land of whatever kind, and as expressed by the Park Service, "The seashore is a priceless scenic and scientific resource for which there is no substitute. Once subdivided and developed, it is lost forever. It is entitled to better treatment as part of the natural heritage of the nation."

From the viewpoint of public recreation alone, the Service reveals some startling facts and figures: "In 1934 only 5,000,000 persons visited New York State beaches. Just twenty years later, in 1954, attendance had vaulted to 60,000,000. And rapidly increasing population promises anything but relief. Today we number 165,000,000. Within twenty more years, says the Census Bureau, we will number 200,000,000—six persons for every five living now. And by

(Continued on page 46)

HELP WANTED

A National Policy for the Establishment and Protection of National Parks and Monuments, beginning on the following page, is a revision of *National Park Standards*. It is the result of two years of work by your executive committee in an attempt to cover as many threats, problems and foreseeable eventualities as possible, realizing that the 1945 version now is inadequate to meet present day conditions.

Your executive committee hopes you will send in any suggestions you may have for further perfecting this declaration of policy. The best letters will be published in the next issue of the magazine. Recommendations from National Park Service officials and other interested persons and organizations also will be welcome. All suggestions will be submitted to the executive committee for consideration at its next meeting, and to the Board of Trustees at the annual meeting in May.

With threats to our national parks and monuments becoming more persistent and numerous every year, we intend this to be the most comprehensible and complete version of national park policy ever written. There is nothing more vitally important to our national parks and monuments than the policy that guides their establishment, administration and interpretation. If policy is sound, and is closely adhered to by the Department of the Interior and the National Park Service, there should be little reason to fear for the future of the parks and monuments.

A NATIONAL POLICY

For the Establishment and Protection of National Parks and Monuments

This declaration of policy is a revision of the standards originally developed by the Camp Fire Club of America and endorsed by nearly a hundred organizations, including the National Parks Association. Offered by the Association to help crystallize fundamental ideals, it is based on the thinking of the National Park Service and a number of organizations and individuals through the years since the establishment of the first national park in 1872.

DEFINITIONS

National Parks

NATIONAL PARKS are spacious land and water areas of nation-wide interest established as inviolable sanctuaries for the permanent preservation of scenery, wilderness, and native fauna and flora in their natural condition. National parks are composed of wilderness essentially in a primeval condition, of areas of scenic magnificence, and of a wide variety of features. Their unexcelled quality and unique inspirational beauty distinguish them from all other areas, and make imperative their protection, through Act of Congress, for human enjoyment, education and inspiration for all time.

National Nature Monuments

National Nature Monuments * are established to preserve specific natural phenomena of such significance that their protection is in the national interest; they are the finest examples of their kind, and are given the same inviolate federal protection as the national parks. While there may be wilderness and scenery in some of the nature monuments, their primary purpose is to protect geological formations, biological features and other significant examples of nature's handiwork. The monuments differ from the parks in that they usually do not have such a wide variety of outstanding features. They may be set aside by Act of Congress, but more often they are established by presidential proclamation, under authority of the *Antiquities Act* of 1906.

* The term "national nature monument," while not official, is used here for the sake of clarity to show that the monuments under consideration are those established to preserve the wonders of nature.

APPLICATION OF PRINCIPLES

1. National Parks and Monuments Are of National Importance

An area is judged to merit national park or monument status and commitment to federal care by the degree of its value and interest to the nation as a whole. Every proposal for the establishment of a new national park or monument should be carefully examined lest it lead to the admission of an area of lesser importance, and thus form a precedent for the future admission of inferior areas which would dilute the splendor of the system. The sanctuaries should differ as widely as possible from one another, and represent a broad range of features of supreme quality.

2. Adequate Area Is Required

National parks and national nature monuments are set aside for the enjoyment, scientific study and permanent preservation, in a natural state, of the native plant and animal life and other features within them. Each should be a comprehensive unit embracing sufficient area for effective administration, and where the fauna and flora are of major significance, should include adequate year-round habitat.

3. Protection Is Based on Scientific and Esthetic Values

Federal guardianship of national parks and national nature monuments involves sound scientific research looking to the protection of wilderness, and plant and animal life and other natural features, and it recognizes those great intangible values of inspirational beauty that make their protection imperative. The highest scientific and inspirational quality of the areas are the special, unique values of the national parks and national nature monuments. Visitor enjoyment is based on seeing and experiencing wilderness and the wonders and beauties of nature, without interference from man-made distractions. Future generations have the right to enjoy these sanctuaries unimpaired by present-day use as required by the Act of 1916, establishing the National Park Service.

4. Congress Intends Enjoyment of Unimpaired Nature

When Congress adopted the Act of 1916, establishing the National Park Service, it made that agency of the government the guardian of national parks and monuments, and it charged the Service with the responsibility to *conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.* Public enjoyment of the natural features of the national parks and national nature monuments is their basic reason for being; the areas are, in fact, living museums. Necessary facilities for visitors should, therefore, be constructed with the least possible alteration of the natural scene.

5. Private Inholdings Are Being Acquired

The acquisition of privately owned lands within national parks and national nature monuments is imperative to facilitate administration and protection, and to prevent intrusion of undesirable developments and activities on them. Such acquisition is being carried out as rapidly as feasible.

6. Wilderness Preservation Is Vital

Wilderness is one of the most significant attributes of the national parks and national nature monuments, and because it is fragile and irreplaceable, it is kept inviolate and is accessible only by trail.

7. Commercial Uses Are Destructive

The national policy recognizes no use of national parks and national nature monuments for commercial purposes, because such use would alter natural conditions and scenery, which these areas have been established to preserve. Every alteration of the natural landscape, however slight, by such activities as logging, mining, grazing, airport and railroad construction, or damming of watercourses, is a direct violation of a fundamental principle of national park management.

8. Amusement Attractions Are Inconsistent

National parks and national nature monuments are not resorts or amusement centers. The introduction of incongruous recreational features diminishes visitors' enjoyment of the basic character of the sanctuaries. Resort amusement facilities, such as golf courses, swimming pools, ski lifts, tramways, skating rinks, tennis courts and speedboats, abundantly available elsewhere, destroy wilderness atmosphere, and defeat the purpose of visitors who wish to derive inspiration from contact with pristine nature.

9. Interpretation Is the Key to Appreciation

Interpretive programs, with museums, adequate literature, visual aids, guided trips and lectures, are based on the natural features of each area, and are given special emphasis by the National Park Service. The Service informs visitors about the purposes of the areas under its care, stimulates respect for the irreplaceable objects of natural and scientific interest, and emphasizes the special significance of the particular area, as well as of the system as a whole. The National Park Service needs adequate funds to employ a sufficient staff of naturalists to serve the rapidly growing number of visitors.

10. Protection of Plants and Animals Is Fundamental

Public shooting of wildlife in national parks and national nature monuments is contrary to the basic principle that these areas are inviolable sanctuaries,

and it is prohibited throughout the park and monument system. Whenever scientific research shows that a native species has become so abundant as to endanger its habitat or the survival of another native species, the National Park Service has authority to reduce its numbers. The introduction of non-native species is contrary to the principle that the national parks and monuments are sanctuaries for *native* wildlife.

Sport and commercial fishing are incompatible with the concept that the national parks and monuments are inviolable sanctuaries for native fauna. Commercial fishing is prohibited, or eliminated as soon as possible. So long as sport fishing is legal, streams and lakes are stocked only when natural reproduction fails to provide enough fish for angling, and then only with species native to the area. High country lakes, where fish do not occur naturally, are not stocked.

Indiscriminate cutting of trees and shrubs and mowing of meadows, and the picking and digging of wild flowers and other plants, are contrary to the principle of inviolate protection of nature. At important overlooks along roads and trails, and at locations where people may observe outstanding manifestations of nature, thinning of vegetation sometimes may be necessary, and it is performed under trained supervision. The removal of dead or dying trees that may endanger people in areas of heavy use, also may be required at times, as in campgrounds and picnic areas, or along trails and roads.

11. Mechanical Noise Is an Adverse Intrusion

Where airfields and railroad stations exist in national parks and monuments, long-range planning looks toward their removal at the earliest time to sites outside the boundaries. Because outboard motors, speedboats and airplanes are a disturbing influence to those seeking the quiet serenity of nature, as well as detrimental to wildlife, they should be prohibited in national parks and monuments. Low altitude flying over national parks and monuments should be restricted to patrolling, forest fire suppression, rescue, and supply service to ranger outposts that are difficult of access.

12. Roads Are Held to a Minimum

Only such roads are built in national parks and national nature monuments as are needed to provide access to some of the principal features of the sanctuaries, and to facilitate their protection. Roads are located so they will mar scenery and natural features as little as possible, and they are constructed for leisurely driving and not for speed or commercial traffic.

13. Buildings Should Be Designed to Blend with Environment

Buildings within national parks and national nature monuments are designed to be as unobtrusive as possible, and to harmonize with their surroundings.

They are erected only where necessary for efficient administration and for the convenience of visitors, at locations where they will least interfere with the natural scene or, where feasible and desirable, outside the boundaries of the parks and monuments. Wherever existing facilities detract from important scenic and scientific features, every effort is being made to move them to unobjectionable sites. Long-range planning envisions the eventual removal of many hotels and lodges to sites outside the boundaries.

14. Concessions Are Only for Necessary Accommodations

Concessions in national parks and national nature monuments are granted only for the necessary care of visitors, and then in restricted locations; and they are operated so as not to lower the dignity of the sanctuaries. National parks and monuments are not established and maintained to provide local or personal profit, and the installation of crowd-attracting facilities and amusements to increase concessioner revenue, or to bolster local income, is a misuse of these reservations.

15. National Archeological Monuments Are Similarly Guarded

National archeological monuments, which are established specifically to protect the structures and other remains of indigenous civilization, are administered under the same principles as set forth herein for the national nature monuments, wherever these are applicable.

16. The Violation of One Park Is a Threat to All

Any infraction of these principles in any national park or monument constitutes a threat to all national parks and monuments.

MISS ETHEL L. LARSEN, of Manistee, Michigan, conservation consultant to the General Federation of Womens Clubs and member of the Association's Board of Trustees, received the 1956 Nash Conservation Award for her outstanding contributions to the conservation of renewable natural resources. Miss Larsen pioneered in developing interest in national parks and wildlife among the powerful women's organizations. As conservation chairman for the General Federation of Womens Clubs, she set a standard her successors in that office have used as their criterion. The National Parks Association is gratified by the signal honor paid to one of its most devoted friends.

CHARLES EGGERT, Association Director of Motion Pictures, will present his spectacular 16mm CinemaScope, stereophonic sound film, *A Canyon Voyage* six times on the west coast. March 7, at Occidental College, Los Angeles, sponsored by the Angeles Chapter, Sierra Club; March 14, at Berkeley High School Little Theater, sponsored by the San Francisco Bay Chapter, Sierra Club; March 21, at Palo Alto High School, sponsored by the Loma Prieta Chapter, Sierra Club; March 22, at Sunset Auditorium, Carmel, sponsored by the Western Office, National Parks Association; March 29, at the Paloma Theater, Seattle, sponsored by the Mountaineers; and on March 26, 27, or 28, at Portland, Oregon, under the auspices of the Mazamas.

Boy Scouts in the Olympics

By ELMER L. ALVERTS, Scoutmaster
Troop 374, Highline District, Seattle

Photographs by the Author

MY earliest memory of the Olympic Mountains goes back to when I was perhaps three. I was sitting in a high chair in the kitchen of our Seattle home, and I saw to the westward the full outline of the glorious peaks, fresh and clean in the new snow. They rose beauty upon beauty to the very heavens. No doubt I asked or pointed; no doubt my mother told me their name.

Like thousands of others, I have been in love with the Olympics ever since. That first sight instilled in me the love, and exploration has added full appreciation.

No need here to tell about the untiring efforts of those who, for their own gain, seek to exploit our beloved mountains. Better it is to instill in others the same love, through personal contact with the

mountain wilderness. Such love is inspired by the bugle of the bull elk echoing and re-echoing on the alpine air; by the wilderness call of the varied thrush in the darkness of the Canadian or Hudsonian zones forests, and by the russet-backed thrush and the water ouzel so much at home in the radiant green of the rain forest trees that are the largest of their kinds in the world.

As a Boy Scouts leader, I am grateful that the men high in the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America believe that areas like the Olympics should be preserved because of their benefit to the youth of our nation, as well as to the nation as a whole. On page 22 of the *Boy Scout Merit Badge Book on Nature*, we read: "With the exception of virgin or wilderness areas, most of the communities you will see have been



The Scout Troop on the foot bridge across Dosewallips Forks.



Scout Bob Alverts on
the Quinault Trail.

greatly disturbed by man through cutting or fire. For this reason and many more, we should try to preserve the few remaining wilderness areas we have. They are among our most valuable natural history possessions."

I became active in Scouts when our oldest boy Bob joined Troop 374.

The idea of taking a Scout hike across the Olympics soon was born, and the realization of our plans came as we shouldered our packs and left Dosewallips River Ranger Station on Sunday morning, July 22, 1956. We were bound for the Pacific Ocean shore, or as close to it as we could get in eight days. Our route was to take us up the Dose to Anderson Pass, over the pass to the headwaters of the east fork of the Quinault River, thence southwesterly down the Enchanted Valley to Lake Quinault, and from there westerly to the Pacific, a distance of sixty-five miles.

Our group was composed of six boys, Steve Hitchcock 14, Dave, his brother, 12, Dave Dew 12, Ted Pattison 12, Jim Burley 11, Bob Alverts 12, T. S. Pattison, Sr., Jim Morrow, amateur photographer, and myself. Packs weighed thirty-five pounds each for the boys, and fifty pounds for each of the three adults. Our food was a wide as-

sortment of Bernard's dehydrated foods, powdered milk, dried fruits and hardtack, distributed equally so that each boy would carry enough for his own needs for one week. Sleeping bags, ponchos, pedometers, compasses, canteens, a hand ax, sheath knives, a hundred feet of rope, cameras, a relief map of Olympic National Park, and scouting and Park Service booklets completed our equipment.

We left the Dose Ranger Station at half past ten on Sunday morning. At 1700 feet above sea level in the Canadian zone forest of the east side of the park, a tremendous avalanche of the previous winter held hundreds of trees and boulders locked in snow and ice. It destroyed the trail at Pass Creek, and forced us to make the first of many detours. After we had crossed the Dosewallips River at Dose Forks, we met The Mazamas, a mountaineering group from Portland, Oregon, who had climbed Mount Anderson and now were on their way out.

Our first day's walk ended at Diamond Meadows, a beauty spot eight miles from the ranger station, where the National Park Service has built a lean-to shelter for its employees, but which the Service encourages hikers to use, if no employees are present. Four Ohio men were camped here, and were using Diamond Meadows as a base camp from which to explore Mount Anderson and Mount LaCross.

The boys did their first fishing of the trip here, but we will blame the high water for their failure to produce anything large enough for the pan.

The first two days of any hiking trip always are the hardest, and ours were no exception. Actually, all we could complain about were sore shoulder muscles. We made certain our feet were well cared for, with fresh, clean socks and liberal use of foot powder.

Next morning, it was the song of the varied thrush that called us out. The song echoed among the Douglas and silver firs. On this day, we had the most difficult walk



The trail leveled into long switchbacks down a meadow thick with wild flowers.

of the trip. Snow field after snow field covered the trail, and we had to detour hummocks and ice bridges, and then search for the trail on the other side. It was slow work, but it provided an experience that will live long in the memory of the scouts. Good use was made of the rope on some the steep snow slopes. The shelter at Honey-moon Meadows lay crushed under tons of snow and broken trees.

From here to Anderson Pass Shelter, where we arrived at mid-afternoon, we walked almost continuously through snow, except through the Hudsonian zone forest of noble and alpine fir, Alaska yellow cedar and mountain hemlock. It was a tired group of scouts that flopped into the shelter at Anderson Pass, only three and a half miles beyond Diamond Meadows.

Pat and I walked to the summit for a look about us and, like the bear, to see what we could see on the other side of the mountain. When we returned to camp, we found four Explorer Scouts and one dad from a Bremerton troop. They were on their way to Graves Creek Ranger Station and were climbing the higher peaks along the way.

With sunset came the usual chill, and it soon made a crackling fire just the right thing for hungry, tired Scouts, who ate supper as fast as it was put on aluminum

plates. Happy and relaxed, they were asleep by eight o'clock.

Tuesday morning dawned pink on the snow fields of the higher peaks. With breakfast finished, the cry was "westward, ho!" Up, up, our way led, and from the summit of Anderson Pass, we could see to the west the headwaters of the Quinault and, far to the east, Mount Constance and the trail we had followed up the Dose.

Our descent was rapid. The trail soon leveled into long switchbacks down an alpine meadow so thick with wild flowers that we lay among them for a wonderful hour, soaking up beauty and fragrance. Below us was the east fork of the Quinault, whispering her wilderness song as she rolled on to the sea.

Here we met another group of Explorer Scouts going east toward the Dose Ranger Station and Hood Canal. "Get to White Creek early," they told us. "The noon sun will increase the run-off and may prevent your crossing."

When we reached White Creek, a foaming torrent that tumbled down the mountain into the valley below, we found the foot bridge two feet under water. We soon had a line strung across the stream to help the scouts over.

A few more miles brought us to the Enchanted Valley and the remains of an

other avalanche. The thunder of the avalanche was gone, but its havoc will remain through many a summer's sun.

Reaching the three-story chalet here at midafternoon, we found it full of hikers. Some had made the fifteen-mile walk from Graves Creek Ranger Station, a shelter maintained by the Park Service.

We made our camp on the Quinault River shore, across from an immense snow field. We had a wonderful camp, and it was here, while supper was cooking, that one of the boys said, "Look across the river." There on the snow field ambled a magnificent black bear, his coat rippling and shining. In no hurry, he showed us how a mountain should be climbed.

As dusk settled over the valley and the fire was dying down, Bob called "Hey, Dad, look!" Standing near Bob was a Columbian blacktail deer—a three-point buck. This beautiful little creature lost no time in getting out of camp.

At midnight, I was awakened by the full moon shining on my face. I climbed out of my sleeping bag to have a look at the moon-lit landscape, and I suddenly

knew why this was called Enchanted Valley. It was beautiful beyond description. Far away to the north, I could see the glaciers on Mount Anderson bright in the moonlight.

Next morning I was up by five to cook breakfast. Jim Morrow and Steve Hitchcock arose, too, and went hunting for tracks for Steve's Nature Badge. While they were gone, I trained my binoculars on the summit of Chimney Peak, where six white dots on the meadows proved to be mountain goats. The remainder of the troop was called out to see them.

We took time at Enchanted Valley to fish and explore, and it was here that Bob caught the first pan-size fish of the trip. The day's walk to Graves Creek Ranger Station, fifteen miles and a range of foothills away, took us through some beautiful Transition zone forest of magnificent Douglas fir, western hemlock and western red cedar, many of the trees having trunks up to eight and ten feet in diameter.

As the Quinault winds its way to the sea, it passes through a canyon where it forms a series of deep, calm, green pools joined

We soon had a line strung across to help the scouts over.



by rapids. Here the trail twists and turns, winding up to the summit of one of the smaller outcroppings of Mount Olson. As Bob, Steve and I hurried on ahead to start supper, we paused at the top of the hill. Three miles ahead lay Graves Creek Ranger Station, where the Park Service's gravel road leads back to civilization. The nearness of that road disturbed us, and we were reluctant to reach it.

Awakened next morning by cold, damp fog, we were conscious of our closeness to the ocean and of the fact that the wilderness part of our trip was over. The sight of people and cars spurred us to move on.

It was five in the afternoon when we made camp on the Quinault, twelve miles from Graves Creek. This one was a fine camp in a beautiful part of the lower Quinault that is little visited at present, because the road is closed to cars. Here in the soft, wet, black sand of the river bank, the boys found fresh tracks of raccoons, deer, elk, bears and cougars. Plaster of paris casts were made and later submitted to the Nature Merit Badge Counselor by Steve Hitchcock. This enabled

Steve to earn the coveted Nature Merit Badge, a requirement for the rank of Eagle.

Next morning, Friday, we hit the trail at ten o'clock, and made our way toward the ocean. At five o'clock we stumbled into Camp Baldy, a Twin Harbors Council Boy Scouts of America camp on Lake Quinault. Here we were warmly received, although unexpected. At campfire that evening, stories of our trip were told by our boys to all present. After having had hot showers and supper, and now warm in our bunks, we were glad to be Scouts.

Following the Flag Ceremony and a big breakfast next morning, we were sent on our way with the blessings of the camp. We intended our destination to be the ocean coast; but after walking along U. S. Highway 101 for ten miles, we decided not to go on to the coast. Instead, we turned off along Lunch Creek and followed it to its headwaters, and there made camp—the last of the trip.

Tanned and hard and a little lighter all around, the Scouts were grateful for wilderness as it still exists in Olympic National Park.

WASHINGTONIANS SPEAK OUT

It is but a very small group of individuals in the State of Washington, who see in Mount Rainier National Park an opportunity to earn a quick dollar, and seek to turn it into an amusement center. To prove that Washingtonians are as sincere as we in their desire to keep Mount Rainier as nature made it, we reprint here, with the permission of the Cascadians, their excellent "Re-affirmation of Devotion to the National Park Idea." —Ed.

THE Cascadians are a group of people numbering in their active membership

This statement, which reflects the unanimous thinking of The Cascadians, was prepared by Charles Hessey. Mr. Hessey and his wife are avid wilderness enthusiasts, and they have produced a remarkable color film of skiing in the Glacier Peak country of northern Washington. The film runs for thirty-five minutes. The Hesseys are seeking a market for it, and anyone who is interested may write to Mr. Hessey, Star Route, Naches, Washington.

men and women gainfully occupied in such divergent fields as medicine, cattle raising, fruit growing, banking, teaching, and engineering. We have in common a love of wilderness recreation. We feel a strong sense of obligation to our children and to their children to preserve those wilderness values which enrich our lives.

The National Park Service is custodian not only to the national parks but to the national park *idea*, which has been under

incessant attack since the parks were first established. We feel that the Cascadians, too, are custodians of this idea. We feel that in the current Mount Rainier National Park controversy the national park idea is the real object of attack and that it is advisable for us to restate our views, which follow.

Mount Rainier belongs to the nation, not just to this state. Mount Rainier National Park is considerably more than a dollar trap. Despite the "woefully inadequate" accommodations and developments decried by advocates of modernization, the overwhelming grandeur of the mountain draws increasing thousands of visitors every year. To us, this indicates that those for whom the park was established are visiting it. We reject the spa idea, and will continue to resist every effort to Europeanize the park.

Offered as bait for those who see only the dollar trap value in Mount Rainier is the claim that luxurious accommodations will attract numerous conventions. This carnival, or circus, concept of the park's value we energetically oppose with the interpretation of the national park idea, which conceives of the national park as a shrine. By way of comparison, we note that men hunger for shrines, and clamor for circuses.

The parks were not intended to satisfy the desires of everyone. Some people look at Mount Rainier and think, "So what?" Their right to visit the park is as well established as is ours. We do deny their right to tramways that will allow them only to think "So what?" at a higher elevation. Any attempt at a multiple-purpose program for the park will result only in the destruction of those priceless values which, while invisible to Mr. So What, are so very substantial to us. Shrines and circuses are incompatible.

We want to stress this point, that the

parks never were intended to satisfy the wishes of everyone, but only of those who think of them as we do. There is nothing selfish or revolutionary in this. There is a division in human needs and desires, long recognized and met in communities where, for instance, everyone is taxed to pay for tennis courts. Perhaps we don't play tennis, but a portion of our money is used to set aside public ground for those who do play tennis. Perhaps we like to roller skate, and look upon the courts as a wonderful place to practice our sport. But tennis courts are for tennis, and society will back up the tennis players if we challenge the fact.

In the same way, the national parks are for those who see them as shrines, and not for those who like to use them to mine, to cut timber, to hunt bears, to play golf, or to build an ultra-fashioned spa.

We also feel strongly that park standards must not be lowered to satisfy the clamor of skiers for comfortable uphill devices. Most of us are confirmed and able skiers. Our unanimous opinion is that Mount Rainier, and in particular the Paradise Valley side, because of storms, mild temperatures, and southern exposure, is the last place we would go to spend our skiing dollars in search of good skiing snow. But our prime objection is that the national park idea must be degraded to provide a huge skiing development. Leaving us our shrines to pass on to our children. There are places far superior for skiing outside the park.

Washington is full of beautiful mountains. Though on a smaller scale, there are other areas just as scenic as Mount Rainier. Ideal sites for commercially developed recreation areas abound. The continuing attack upon the national park idea is without foundation in need. We join with other organizations who believe as we do in seeing to it that no wedding of the shrine and the circus philosophies is attempted.

Timber Salvage in Olympic National Park

By FRED M. PACKARD, Executive Secretary
National Parks Association

A CONSTANT THREAT to the preservation of many national parks is the presence within their boundaries of privately owned lands that can be exploited by the owners without regard to their importance to the national park. Olympic National Park is especially so endangered. There are fine private tracts in the park that could be logged, and the law requires that access roads to private lands be permitted.

Congress failed to appropriate funds to acquire these inholdings, so the National Park Service undertook a special program of salvage of down trees to secure the means whereby some of the private lands could be acquired. The National Parks Association did not oppose this action because it believed the greater danger appeared to be the potential loss of interior forests; but it warned the precedent might lead to trouble and advised that the logging be limited to the immediate objective. The Wilderness Society and some other organizations believed any such program was unwise because it tended to encourage the conversion of national park resources into revenue, with far-reaching implications.

As originally conceived, the salvage was restricted to four areas at the edges of the park, which were already accessible by existing roads, where severe windthrow and other causes had created tangles of down logs that constituted a possible fire hazard and were not of special scenic value. Salvage there enabled the Park Service to acquire about \$800,000 worth of inholdings and to obtain lumber with which to build a new museum and other facilities. The operation appeared to have been well-handled, and had it stopped there, as the Association was given assurance it would be, the immediate results might well have been considered beneficial to the park.

Unfortunately, the program was not only continued but accelerated. Although a change in directives required that revenue so secured henceforth be turned into the Treasury rather than be used for other purposes, salvage was carried out at many places near the edges of the park and at a few, some distance inside the boundaries. In 1956, eleven contracts were in force. Each could be defended as sound in purpose. Where a campground was to be built or a road widened or relocated, where trees beside a road represented a threat to automobiles, where an insect infestation was a potential threat to other trees, or where a logjam on a river endangered bridges or public use areas, it was argued the trees should be taken out. Once removed, it was felt, they should not be wasted, but sold or converted into lumber. The park administration sincerely believed its program was justified and not injurious to the park.

But Olympic National Park is one of the most sensitive areas, in that for years certain logging interests have tried to gain access to its forests for commercial profit. Every such effort has failed (they will undoubtedly be renewed), but there is some indication that the salvage program was continued to counter the argument that the park forests were being "wasted." Many believe the Park Service's position would be stronger had it firmly rejected the concept that any part of these forests should be converted into revenue. No matter what the justification, the program was a weakening influence and therefore endangered the integrity of the park.

During the summer of 1956, a number of people inspected the cutting areas. They were shocked by the scale of logging that was going on, especially by the removal of healthy live trees, and the appearance

of a commercial logging operation. The stumps revealed that the contractors had been interested almost exclusively in removing logs that could be used for lumber. Huge Douglas firs had been cut as "bug" trees, although unhealthy trees a few feet away were ignored. "Hazard" trees were felled on both sides of highways, some of them more than eighty feet from the right of way; but they were live trees, and dead trees actually leaning over the road were left. While in places the slash had been removed, and the giant stumps even covered with moss by hand, in other places, as at La Poel, muddy passages made by bulldozers were littered with piles of brush and the logs of those parts of trees not economically usable. One tract of many acres had been clear cut on a steep slope to protect some buildings below—but most of these trees could not conceivably fall on the buildings, and serious erosion has already started there. However good the intentions, the operation was subject to strong valid criticism.

The park administrators agree a major defect of the program was the lack of supervision over it. Only one man on the staff could be assigned to watch over the logging, and he had many other duties. Once a tree was felled, there was no way to determine whether it had actually been marked by the Park Service for cutting, and there is reason to suspect that many unmarked trees were taken. One can understand that the park could not assign more men to oversee the work; but the question arises whether any cutting—or any contractual operation in a national park or monument—should ever be undertaken unless adequate supervision can be given to it to prevent undue damage and to ensure the contracts are strictly observed. There was no urgency, no crisis situation to be met, and any parts of the program that were truly in the best interest of the park could have been deferred until the necessary manpower was available to control it.

As a result of public protest, Regional

Director L. C. Merriam went to the park in October to survey the results of the operation. He determined that administratively the proper procedures had been followed, but agreed mistakes had been made and corrective action was needed. Following his inspection, the official statement of policy governing removal of trees and use of vegetation in national parks or monuments was revised. This policy is summarized by the Director of the National Park Service as follows:

The authority of a park superintendent to remove timber or other material is limited to areas designated on the Master Plan for public use, such as campgrounds, roads, administrative areas, etc. Within these sites we remove only such trees and other vegetation as are absolutely necessary for the development, and for public safety. The park superintendent is responsible for carrying out this policy in park development, and for maintaining such areas in safe condition for visitor use. The salvage material removed is a product of the operation. It is utilized merely because not to do so would be wasteful. Salvage is never the primary reason for removal of any vegetation.

Problems arising outside of these designated use areas, such as blowdowns which create fire hazards, or insect infestations of epidemic proportions, must be referred to the regional office and then to this office for study and approval before control action may be initiated. If these problem sites are along existing roads, we may salvage material which needs to be removed and is excess to the normal ecological cover, and such salvage proposals must be included in the justification furnished for the work. Clean-up must be done carefully to maintain this normal balance. We will not remove any "potential" insect hazard trees, and it has never been our policy to do so.

In addition, the policy states:

The vegetation within each area of the national park system is an important element of that area, and any modification of the vegetation that creates an environment in conflict with the basic purposes for which the area was established must *not* be permitted . . .

In all areas, certain cutting and removal projects are necessary: (1) to protect and

maintain the vegetation within the areas; and (2) to provide, under approved development programs, for safe use and full enjoyment of the areas by the people. In contrast, the cutting or removal of any live or dead vegetation for the primary purpose of use, sale or exchange, violates the fundamental purpose of the areas as expressed in the basic laws and regulations relating to them . . .

Cutting or salvage in interior areas to reduce fire hazards resulting from fires, insects or diseases, blowdowns, storms, floods, avalanches, etc., can be justified only under extreme or unusual conditions. Such cutting or salvage shall not normally be practiced in areas of the national park system . . .

This evaluation should prevent reoccurrence of cutting in any national park or monument in the future. Merely revising official policy, however, is not enough; the director's office, the regional offices, and the local park administrators must together ensure the new policy is strictly applied to

all future planning. It is also a responsibility of citizens' organizations, national and local, to watch their parks so that no unnecessary disturbance of their natural features shall result from any activity—logging, construction of projects under the Mission 66 program, or any other operation—and that in planning any work that must be done in the public interest, there be rigid adherence to the fundamental requirements of law that protection of the areas remains the primary concern of the Park Service. Above all, there should be no temptation to regard the material resources of the national parks as potential sources of revenue, or to give any consideration to whatever economic potentiality they may possess. The first and only consideration must always be to do that which is in the interest of the park itself and that will facilitate its protection.

CONTINUED THREAT TO CHESAPEAKE AND OHIO CANAL

IT recently has been learned that the National Park Service proposes to let contracts early in 1957 for the construction of the George Washington Memorial Parkway for several miles immediately north of Washington, D. C. The proposal is to place the parkway on an alignment which is contrary to views on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal property expressed in the article *A New Era for the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal*, by Irston R. Barnes, in the July-September 1956 issue of NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE. In certain stretches, the four-lane highway would run within one hundred feet of the canal, even though in one place it would be double-decked to keep it a bit farther away than it otherwise would be. The right-of-way along MacArthur Boulevard described in Mr. Barnes' article would avoid all impairment of the canal, which Park Service plans entail.

In recent months the Park Service has made statements indicating that the new plans would meet the objections of con-

servationists to earlier proposals for building the parkway. Conservation groups in the Washington area, which have studied the situation closely, through their cooperative information organization, the Potomac Valley Conservation and Recreation Council, consider that these statements are misleading. Although the new plans do represent some improvement, they definitely are not satisfactory—the unique character of the canal property as a whole still will be destroyed. The continuous ribbon of the towpath and canal, so much used by hikers, canoeists, and others, will suffer the noisy and distracting intrusions of nearby highway traffic over long and important stretches. The parkway would also tend to wall off the canal and towpath from the easy and informal access which is now one of the most pleasant features of the property. A very disturbing aspect is that the Service apparently contemplates the same basic approach (i.e., running roughly 100-150 feet from the canal) on the much

longer stretch to be built in the future, though the problems of construction on a better right-of-way in this section would be much less difficult than in the part near the District.

The Park Service needs no appropriation to let the contracts. The funds have already been provided by the Federal-Aid Highway Acts. Washington conservationists accordingly believe that corrective action is urgent.

Washington groups have advised their members that all interested persons should

write the Honorable Fred A. Seaton, Secretary of the Interior, Washington 25, D. C., stating their objection to the proposed plan and urging that the Department of the Interior take the lead in formulating a plan placing the parkway approximately along MacArthur Boulevard. It also has been suggested that copies of these letters be sent to appropriate Senators and Congressmen. The interest and support of conservationists outside the Washington region is hoped for by the local groups in view of the importance of the canal to the nation's capital.

SAVING THE REDWOODS

The Save-the-Redwoods League tells us that it has now succeeded in bringing about permanent protection for the famous Avenue of the Giants.

Reporting this glorious achievement, the League, in its *Bulletin* for fall, 1956, says: "The purchase price was \$1,200,000, with the state and the League each contributing \$600,000. The property was bought from the Pacific Lumber Company. Now saved is an area of approximately 295 acres traversed by the highway, and including the luxuriant forest of High Rock Flat, which borders the Eel River. The setting combines natural beauty and grandeur upon a titanic scale. Many of the redwoods here are more than 300 feet high and over 2000 years old. The newly acquired Avenue of the Giants forest extends for two miles along the main Eel River. It was on August 15 that the Save-the-Redwoods League paid \$600,000 to the State Park Commission for the purpose. Widespread publicity has been accorded in newspapers and magazines in recognition of this."

For such a grand accomplishment, the nation owes the League and the State Park Commission an unending debt of gratitude.

A great deal still remains to be done. A number of existing redwood state parks are slated for expansion, among them Humboldt, Prairie Creek, Del Norte Coast and Jed Smith; while Butano, Big Basin, Richardson Grove, Grizzly Creek, Samuel P. Taylor, Portola and Cowell may also be enlarged. It is hoped new groves can be acquired at Benbow Lake, Hendy Woods and the Little Sur River. Included in the proposed expansion of Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park is Fern Canyon, on Home Creek, west of the present park area. The vertical walls of the canyon, which rise forty feet in height, are thickly covered with ferns from top to bottom, constituting one of the most unique, beautiful, natural features to be seen anywhere.

The League reports that the principle of the Redwoods By-pass Freeway has been accepted by the state highway department, and that more than three million dollars has been appropriated for the first unit. To those who have traveled the Redwoods Highway in company with roaring giant diesel trucks, this is especially welcome news.

To find out how you can help save the remaining unprotected redwood groves, write to The Save-the-Redwoods League, 250 Administration Building, University of California, Berkeley, California.

The Sociable Cony

By DONNA deMAHY ARMSTRONG

A Ranger's Wife

THE scuffle of the movers' feet and the thudding of packing boxes and heavy furniture finally ceased, and our two boisterous little lads banged out the back door headed for new dirt, with dump-truck and loader clutched in their arms. With relieved sighs, Del and I dropped onto the couch for a short breather and a chance to size up furniture arrangement possibilities in our new home—the White River ranger residence of Mount Rainier National Park.

Suddenly the quiet respite was interrupted by a violent scraping and clawing clatter in the walls.

"Oh no! What this time?" I moaned with resignation, remembering our previous Park Service dwellings. The first of these had been inhabited by a raccoon family who inconsiderately romped through the attic at any hour of the day or night. Our earlier quarters were equipped with a spotted skunk whose cumbersome brushing through the inner wall and dainty scurrying above the ceiling had not been offensive, but whose less dainty tendency eventually made us hang out a no-trespassing sign.

Now what was this place harboring? That pattering about from pillar to post, and those loud rattling and scratching sounds were definitely not of mousy origin! Could it be rats? With this thought in mind, I spent the first week in our new abode periodically jerking feet from floor and peering behind furniture in dubious deference to the "noise."

It was not long, however, before we got a clue in the guessing game. A little creature that began sunning himself on the woodpile in back of our house was identified as a cony. This small mammal would

attract our attention with his tremendous (out of all proportion to his "molish" size) cony chatter, which repeated a single ascending syllable, "chick," at accelerating pace until, low on wind, it would run down much like an old alarm clock. Then, after a moment's pause, to recuperate, perhaps, Cony would punctuate his oratory with a resounding "eh," resembling an automatic "yea" from a bored parliament member.

Cony obviously enjoyed having us gaze at him while he basked in the warmth of the summer sun. He would face whichever window his call had attracted us to and stare back at us with bunny-like nose quivering, and round ears alert to the rear. At first, whenever we tried to approach the nervous little fellow, he would dart into the woodpile with movements so quick that he actually seemed to vanish. Eventually he gained confidence and allowed us

The little creature we identified as a cony.

Fred M. Packard



to come within a few feet of him before he would turn tail.

After this fresh-air introduction, it took only an "eh" or two from within the walls to convince us that it was Mr. Cony who considered our cozy cottage a convenient covert—and the mystery was ended.

Searching in Del's mammalogy book, I found that a cony is more properly called a pika; that he lives in the higher elevations among rock piles and talus slopes, though an occasional renegade may seek lodging elsewhere; that he is related to the rabbits and hares, and so is often called a rock rabbit. A pika, I learned, gathers herbs and twigs during the fair weather months and piles them in a stack to cure, and he stores them for food during the snowy season, because he does not hibernate in winter. The text also informed me that the pika's degree of socialibility has not been determined, although evidence suggests that he is not socially inclined. Finally my source of pika lore stated without qualification that said beastie is of low intelligence.

Now that we knew *what* our wee bit noisy was, it seemed neighborly to give him a *who* status. The name "Pinecone" struck us as a rather ingenious combination of pika and cony, and as being somewhat descriptive of his size (if you consider the right size pinecone) and sound (if you want to stretch it still further and imagine a prickly pinecone running through the walls).

One day I was about to step out the front door, when I spotted Pinecone in the middle of the walkway just six or eight feet from me. The impetuous fellow hurled himself in my direction at rocket speed and, as I braced for the impact, he disappeared under the stoop on which I was standing. We soon discovered that Pinecone had at least ten emergency entrances, or exits, as the need might be, burrowed strategically under all sides of the house.

Later in the summer we noticed that the busy rodent cropped his twigs and other

delicacies right outside our dinette window. Standing on stubby hind legs, with his round little rump looking very incomplete without a tail (pikas do not have tails), he would reach as high as he could on a huckleberry bush, snap off a twig five times his size, scoot to his most accessible hole and pull his branch in behind him.

It was when old man winter tucked us under a thick white blanket, terminating the cony's harvesting days and sunny siestas, that our acquaintance with Pinecone grew more chummy. In spite of the fact that we no longer saw him, we were able to make our own "sound" observations regarding the social consciousness of a pika. Pinecone, separated from all other contacts by nine feet of snow, turned to us for diversion. He piped out more frequently, and we always thought of an appropriate reply, usually "eh." He plainly enjoyed being near us as he tagged along from one part of the house to another according to our activity. The most obvious change of location would be when I would go to bed, sometimes as late as midnight or one a.m. Just as I settled myself comfortably into the silence, there would begin a rapid scurrying from the front of the house to the bedroom, then a miniature thud, always in the same spot, indicating that companion cony also had settled. Pinecone's interest in us proved to our satisfaction that he was a pika of discrimination, and could in no wise be considered either unsocial or unintelligent.

The long winter must often have seemed quite humdrum to our pet, but occasionally he would find a bit of a thrill to break the monotony. It did appear that the cony thrived on excitement, and what could be more stimulating than to tease the martens, who, by the way, eat conies—if they catch them. When one of our martens came stalking around for a handout, as they often did during the winter months, Pinecone would place himself just as close to Br'er Marten

(Continued on page 35)

Sunshine and Blizzard

AFIELD WITH YOUR REPRESENTATIVE

Photographs by the Author

For six weeks this past autumn, your Field Representative Devereux Butcher, accompanied by his wife, traveled 5300 miles from Washington, D. C., to Tucson, Arizona, to visit fifteen Park Service areas and a number of Fish and Wildlife Service areas. He reports his findings.

Mound City Group, at Chillicothe, Ohio, is one of the national archeological monuments. As a link in the story of North America's pre-Columbian civilization, it deserves recognition. But the visitor regrets to discover that only one of the numerous mounds is original, the others having been destroyed by the Army's Camp Sherman during its occupation of the area in 1917-18. In the 1930's, these mounds were restored by the CCC. We understand that there are sites with numerous original mounds intact, and perhaps someday the Park Service could take over one of these.

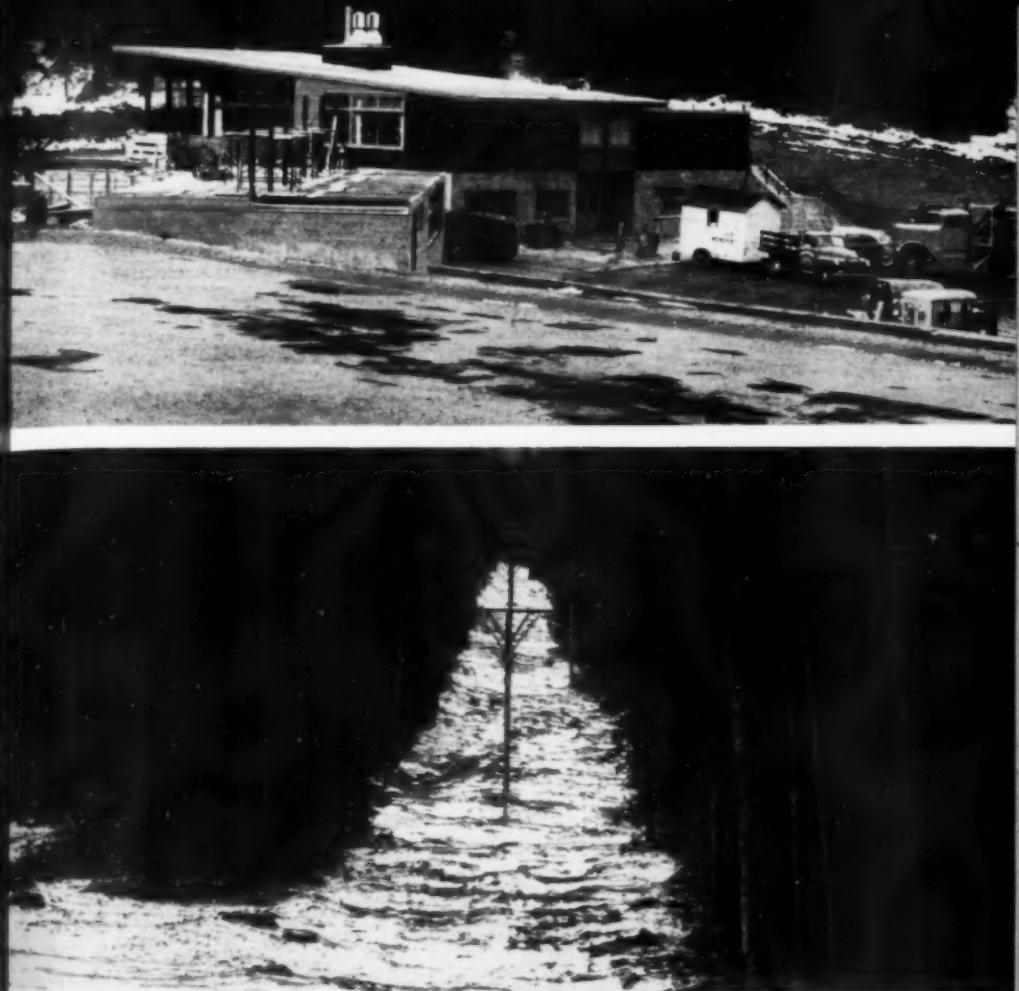
Swan Lake, near Sumner, Missouri, is a Fish and Wildlife Service waterfowl refuge. We spent a day seeing it and hundreds of ducks and geese resting and feeding on their southward migration. The area has, in addition to three lakes, a woodland

along its south side, habitat of the handsome fox squirrels and other mammals. This woodland provides landscape variety, and deserves strict protection. It was disturbing to note the Service's preparation for the waterfowl gunning season, which was to open in a day or so. This is one of several refuges the gunning fraternity has forced the Service to open, in part, to shooting in season. Gunners' blinds ring the area.

Rocky Mountain National Park was having a cold spell while we were there, and for two days a storm, raging the length of the park's continental divide, put on a grand show. On the third day, the storm front retreated to the high summits and, swept by gales, the clouds billowed and boiled in fast motion resembling upward-pouring volcanic smoke. Snow was blown

The building the Service assured us would be only a "warming hut," in Rocky Mountain's Hidden Valley, is hideous and already outgrown





In the foreground, top, is a skating rink, and just beyond it a new concession building under construction, and the "warming hut." Steel towers of the ski lift were in and ready for use.

into the sunshine of the park's eastern side.

We investigated the Hidden Valley ski development.* The original building, which the Service assured us merely would be a "warming hut" is hideous in design

* See *A Chair Lift for Rocky Mountain National Park?* and *A T-Bar Lift for Rocky Mountain*, in NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE for January-March 1954; *The Termites*, October-December 1954; and *That Sacred Trust*, January-March 1956.

and color, and already is outgrown, so that another building was being erected next to it, for meals and ski rental. The Park Service uses the first building for interpretation. We are glad for the interpretation, but the developed area grows apace—and who can say where it will stop! Two ski lifts already are built.

Permanent steel towers carrying the cables, and a steel frame supporting an

engine to pull them were ready for operation. A skating rink has been built, as well as a vast parking area. Hidden Creek runs out of sight in a culvert beneath the entire area—now truly a hidden creek. On the first day we visited the project, a sign advertised it as a Mission 66 project. Next day the sign was gone, we were glad to see, for the whole affair constitutes a violation of national park integrity and, we suppose, is not something the Service would want to advertise.

But all was not black. Overnight accommodations inside the park are being acquired, with the view to making this a day-use park. The Service recognizes grand possibilities for interpretation here, and is planning to establish a museum and visitor center at a strategic spot, to be supplemented with smaller centers where park features can be made interesting to visitors.

Scotts Bluff, in western Nebraska, is one of our national historic sites. The high bluff was a landmark along the Oregon Trail, part of which still can be seen here. The national monument has an exceptionally good museum.

Wind Cave National Park, in South Dakota's Black Hills, we found especially interesting—that is, the above-ground area. It consists of rich grasslands broken by woodlands of ponderosa pine, with some deciduous trees along the creeks—habitat of bison, antelope, elk and mule deer. More grassland ought to be added along the park's east and south sides, for the area needs enlarging. Adjoining the park to the north, and divided from it by a bison-proof fence, is the much larger Custer State Park. By comparison with the national park's grasslands, those of the state park were overgrazed by a too-large herd of bison. There is vandalism and poaching on both areas. A larger permanent ranger staff is needed in the national park, if it is to be protected adequately.

Paved through roads enter the park at three points. These are used by commercial traffic, so that an urgent project is a by-

pass west of the park for traffic between Hot Springs and Custer. There is need for a by-pass county road east of the park as well, for traffic comes and goes over an existing dirt road through the park's east side, over which the Service seems to have no control. If an east side by-pass were built, the south gate here could be closed, and the present road made exclusively part of a park loop for visitors.

A plan to open up some of the more remote wildlife lands in the center of the park with spur roads seems not in the best interest of the park and its wildlife. This little park is a remnant of natural grassland and, as such, deserves utmost care and preservation. Existing roads are adequate for visitor enjoyment.

Jewel Cave National Monument, while it may interest geologists and speleologists, lacks national significance. It would be more suitably administered by the state.

Mount Rushmore National Memorial, another of the Park Service's Black Hills areas, is a magnet to tourists; but it is not an appropriate object for federal government protection. The concessioner appears to be all-powerful here. Already he has completed a huge, ugly dormitory for his help, and a large restaurant building set in the choicest spot for viewing the sculptured heads was under construction. The Park Service's interpretive building and overlook, not yet started, are to be shoved to one side. A massive masonry stage and amphitheater, for pageants by local people, was well toward completion.

Badlands, some miles east of the Black Hills, is a gem among our national nature monuments. An excellent interpretive program was being made ready, with signs and nature trails. The area needs a permanent naturalist. It is now served by a naturalist stationed at Wind Cave, who serves all five of the Park Service's areas in and near the Black Hills. This causes many lost hours in commuting hundreds of miles.

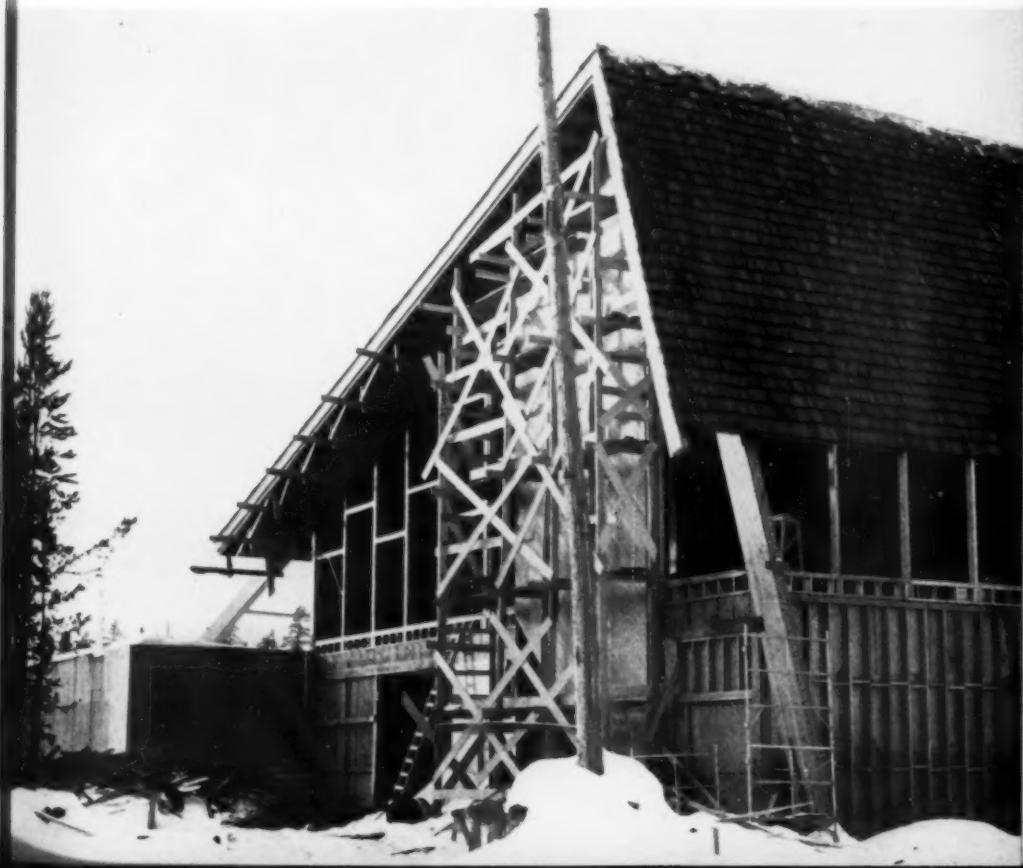
Devils Tower, in the Black Hills of northeastern Wyoming, like Badlands, is another superb national nature monument. We were marooned there three days by a blizzard. On the day of our departure the sky was brilliant, the temperature down, and snow covered ground and pines. A larger staff is needed to adequately patrol the monument, especially during the deer shooting period, for poachers come into the area.

Interesting, indeed, is the current plan to enlarge the monument to include within it the three Missouri Buttes, located about three miles from the monument's present northwest corner. To the 1349 acres will be added 4950 acres.

Custer Battlefield National Monument was on our route through southern Montana. As the name implies, it is one of the numerous sites relating to United States history. A good but ugly museum needs some improvement of exhibits.

Yellowstone National Park was deep in snow during our three days there. It was a grand and beautiful sight, and free of tourists. We came in by the Gardiner entrance. Roads were plowed to Canyon and Old Faithful. Under Mission 66, the overnight facilities at Canyon are being abolished, and new buildings are under construction at a new location away from the scenic area. To free the rims of the

The concession buildings in Yellowstone's new Canyon development are colossal in scale and of freak design. This one is shown under construction.





The rafters of the concession building at Canyon—huge laminated timbers—go on beyond the roof line to reach the ground.

Canyon of the Yellowstone River of clutter is a most worthwhile project; but beyond that, we found little to praise. The new concessioner's buildings, already walled and roofed when we were there, are colossal and of freak design. Man here is creating a "feature" that will compete with the park's natural wonders for public attention. Conspicuous park structures violate the national policy governing our national parks.

The Lower Fall of the Yellowstone was sheathed in pale green ice along its sides, and Old Faithful put on two magnificent shows for us. The Grotto Geyser performed while we were there; but more impressive was the Grotto's Fountain Geyser, which erupts at the same time twice daily, continuing for a half hour, reaching nearly as high as Old Faithful.

Grand Teton National Park was next. Since we had to leave Yellowstone by the west entrance and go the long way around, we had the opportunity to discover, at long last, what the west side of the Teton Mountains look like. We often have wondered.

The peaks, snow-covered, came into view about mid-afternoon, and for an hour or more the road kept taking us nearer. They are almost as impressive from the west, with lower slopes forested and deep canyons penetrating the range. Farms and ranches lie along their base.

We spent four days enjoying the park's winter landscape. Jenny Lake was not frozen, but the snowy peaks and forest around made a grand contrast to the summer scene we know so well. String Lake was frozen over, and we walked along its icy edge for a mile in search of vistas for the cameras. Moose tracks were everywhere. We visited the Colter Bay developed area, on Jackson Lake's eastern shore. This is taking the place of the several visitor facilities that formerly cluttered the most scenic part of the park. The new development seemed well planned. A bright spot in the project was the group of old log cabins brought from various parts of the park to provide visitor sleeping accommodations. Harmonizing with their lodgepole pine forest setting, they seem to belong. The Service is

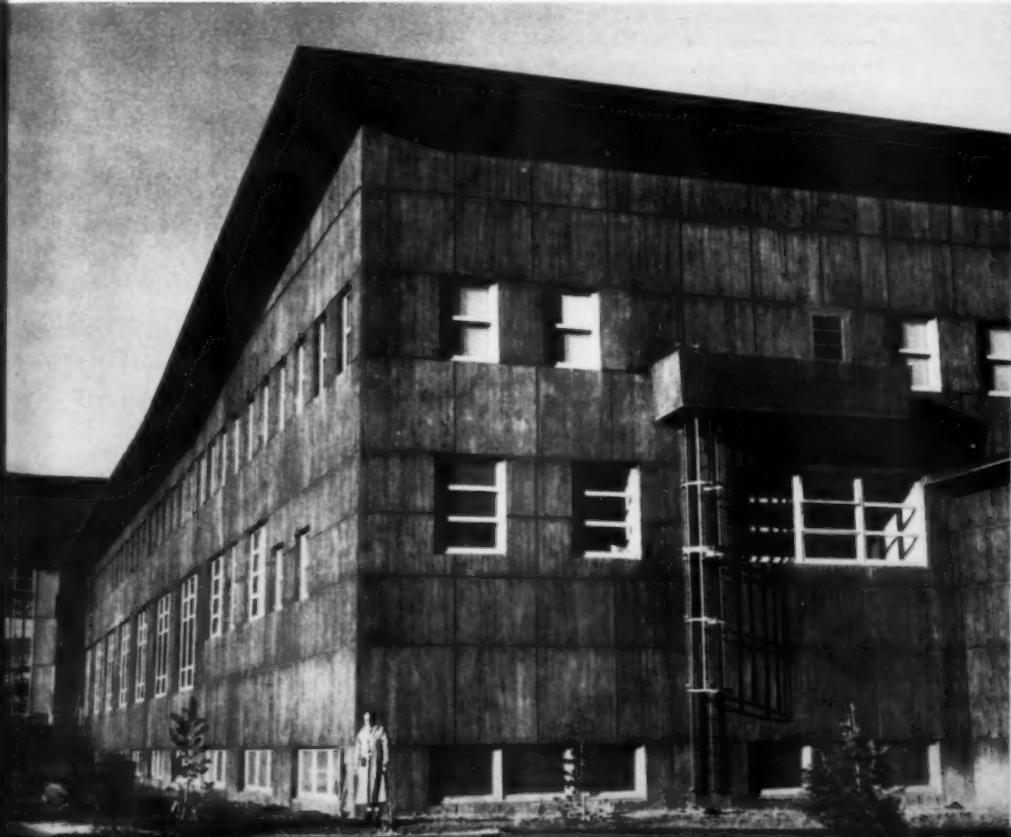
to be congratulated for having the vision to save and bring them here. Of course, they make the new nearby concession buildings look a bit out of place. Architecture of the cafeteria, store and so forth, is not extreme, but like most contemporary architecture, lacks charm and warmth. Where was the architect's sense of fitness?

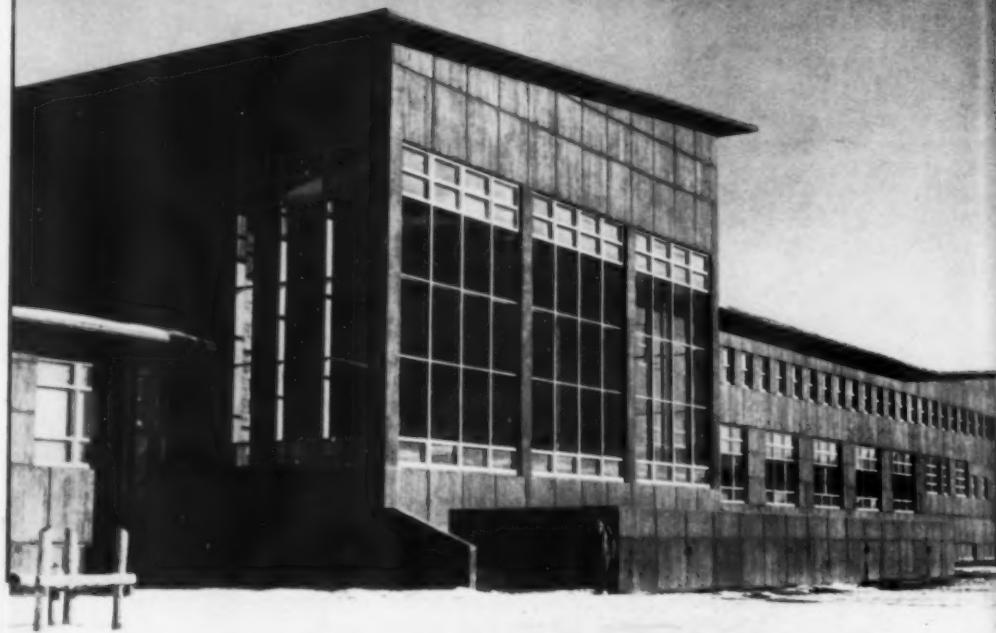
Jackson Lake Lodge had been built in the park since our visit in 1952. We had heard about it from numerous sources. A few liked it; many expressed vigorous dislike. Needless to say, we wanted to have a look at it ourselves. Although closed, we drove up and walked around it. It is made of poured concrete stained brown. Locally, it has acquired the name Alcatraz. Whatever

it may suggest to the observer, we simply say that, in our opinion, it is the ugliest building in the park and monument system.

The new road being built by the Park Service to take through and commercial traffic along the east side of Jackson Hole, away from the lakes and mountains, seems only partly to fulfill its purpose. To the north, it is well toward the park's east side. But coming south, it swings west to meet the old park road at Moose, west of Blacktail Butte. This junction is many miles from the south boundary, so that visitors must still cope with speeding trucks and through traffic inside the park. Furthermore, this road cuts through hills and

The new Jackson Lake Lodge, in Grand Teton, is referred to locally as "Alcatraz."





moraines just as any ordinary highway does. What has happened to the Service's policy to fit roads to land contours—to make them inconspicuous and harm the landscape as little as possible?

In Grand Teton there is a sign that beats all park signs for size. It is the one that announces the Jackson Hole Airport, inside the park. Where a modest board with the

word "airport" placed at the junction of the airport road would have sufficed, the Service has authorized, or actually constructed this monstrosity, which can be seen for two miles in each direction as you approach it across the sage flats. Besides announcing the airport, it bears the words "scenic flights." It is bad enough to have a commercial airport in a national park,

Would this Alcatraz win first prize as the ugliest building in the park system? Below is the largest, most conspicuous sign in all the parks, visible two miles each way, on the main road in Grand Teton.



with transport planes arriving and leaving every day, particularly in summer; but it is worse to allow sight-seeing flights. Nothing more thoroughly disrupts a sense of solitude and wilderness than to have an airplane swoop past while you are exploring mountain trails. We wondered, too, why the sign carries the emblem of the National Park Service, as though the Service sponsors the flights. Investigation seems in order here.

National Elk Refuge, adjoining Grand Teton, was a busy place. Preparations were under way for feeding thousands of elk during the winter. The animals were coming down from the high country and entering the refuge by hundreds a day, and already 4000 of them were on the refuge. A new high was reached this year for the population of the rare trumpeter swan here. Fifty-eight was the count at one time. We saw many, including full grown, dusky cygnets.

Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge, near Brigham City, Utah, another Fish and Wildlife Service area, was wind-swept and cold the day we were there, with spectacular clouds unloading veils of snow on the Wasatch Mountains to the east. While the peak of the goose and duck migration already was past, the whistling swans still were coming in. We saw hundreds, as well as a large flock of snow geese.

Bryce Canyon National Park was a delight as usual. There was no snow there, so that it looked almost as it does in summer, except there were no tourists. It was gravely disappointing to see that the concessioner, the Utah Parks Company—one we have counted as among the better park concessioners—had painted its lodge bright yellow and the cabins yellow, pink, blue and green, in open violation of the policy that park structures be kept inconspicuous and made to harmonize with their surroundings. Has the Park Service changed its long-accepted, excellent policy in this regard?

Zion National Park has the same concessioner as Bryce Canyon, and the lodge

and cabins there have been painted similarly. We understand that the lodge at **Cedar Breaks National Monument** also has been given a coat of bright paint.

But Zion was truly magnificent. Except for a handful of visitors, we had the park to ourselves, and the cameras were in action almost ceaselessly. It was cold, and a strong wind blew most of the time, but the sky was brilliant. On our last full day, we climbed the West Rim Trail, turning off to Angel's Landing. The gusty wind on those high places threatened to give us a quick trip back to the canyon floor.

The village of Springdale is a growing community, with already a number of good motels and eating places. It seems well within the realm of possibility that someday Zion Canyon will be cleared of buildings and made available for day-use only.

At Kanab, Utah, we stopped at **Glen Canyon dam** headquarters. Work is going forward rapidly. Already two roads lead to the site, one east from Kanab and the other north from Gap, on U. S. Highway 89 east of Grand Canyon. The question keeps recurring whether there ever will be enough water to fill that reservoir, even with a few years of abundant snow in the mountains. Lake Mead today is far below capacity and is dropping every year. Even with the estimated ten years required to fill Glen Canyon, is it possible to hold enough water in Lake Mead to keep the power generators turning? And if Glen should never fill, would there be any need for the dam in Bridge Canyon, planned to keep water from inundating **Rainbow Bridge National Monument**?

Grand Canyon was concealed by night when we drove in from Cameron, by the east rim drive. Reconstruction of the twenty-five miles of road between Grand Canyon village and Desert View, is a Mission 66 project. The first eight miles east of the village was being rebuilt, and we were more than a little alarmed to see an entirely new alignment over most of the distance. The road is wide and nearly straight like any



The above view shows the engine tower by which ore is hauled by cable from the mine. The lower scene shows the mine entrance, hundreds of feet below. This view has been greatly enlarged for detail. The private tract, which also contains an inn on the rim, should have been acquired years ago.

Association members will be shocked to learn that a uranium mine is being operated in Grand Canyon National Park. Located on a tract of private land about two miles west of the village, it fortunately is visible only from one place on the rim—an overlook reached by trail from a parking area.



ordinary highway, by-passing the gently curving old road, which skilfully fitted the land contours. A full-scale logging operation is taking place to make way for the new alignment, and miles of the old road will have to be obliterated and planted at tremendous cost. If Mission 66 is to prove beneficial, the Park Service will have to exercise judgment and restraint to avoid damaging the areas it is charged to protect.

A fine museum and visitor center was nearing completion. Soon the natural history collections, the most complete anywhere in the park and monument system, will be moved into it from the little wooden school building that has housed it many years. While the visitor center might have been placed more advantageously for visitors (within shorter walking distance of hotel and lodge) it is nevertheless a grand forward step, with its auditorium, exhibit room, library and workshop. All the big parks need buildings like it. The color of the exterior walls is too light, and needs toning down, as do the brilliant red tanks at a nearby gas station. In the matter of paint in national parks and monuments, we could not help but wonder if these cases and those at Zion and Bryce Canyon were to be typical of Mission 66 projects and others.

Fred Harvey Company, park concessioner, is to build a new group of cabins and a cafeteria, and perhaps other buildings to accommodate park visitors. We hope the handsome and fitting Bright Angel Lodge will serve the company's architect as a model for the design of the new buildings. The company deserves praise for that lodge building, and we are confident company officials are well aware of its appropriateness, and will not be "sold a bill of goods" such as we have seen at Yellowstone.

We visited the site for the proposed Shrine of the Ages. Let no one say it is not on the rim, for we paced it off. The center of the building will be exactly 180 feet from the brink. The only good word is that

the fund-raising is not going as well as the promoters would like; yet we learned a new drive was being launched.

Before leaving the canyon, we had a look at the uranium mine now operating on a private tract a mile or so west of the village. This is on the property of what formerly was Kachina Lodge, now Grand Canyon Inn. Near the inn and cabins a machinery tower hauls ore by cable from the mine hundreds of feet down in the canyon. Fortunately, the disruption of the natural scene is visible from only one spot, reached by trail from a parking area.

Saguaro National Monument, seventeen miles east of Tucson, was beautiful in the warm sunshine; but it was not quite as appealing as in the spring of 1952, when the desert was in full bloom and birds were singing everywhere. We regretted to find that the monument, particularly in the vicinity of headquarters and the Cactus Forest Drive, was being injured by trespass horses. Trails and tracks of unshod hoofs were everywhere. Inquiry revealed that seven miles of boundary fence were needed to end this, yet a pamphlet showed the Park Service has been promoting a multi-million dollar highway into the monument's Tanque Verde Mountains. The Service, in neglecting the fence construction, has failed in its responsibility to the area and the nation. Why, one may ask, has this fence not been completed long ago? It is true that there yet remain certain cattlemen who still have permits to run their cattle on the monument; but these men apparently are cooperative, and their cattle seldom if ever go into the cactus forest area. With millions of dollars now available through Mission 66, we may hope the fence will be completed quickly.

All the finest of southern Arizona's mountain ranges have, or are planned to have, roads built into them. Ought not one range, at least, be spared and kept permanently wild as a sanctuary? And which more appropriately than the Tanque Verdes and Rincons of Saguaro?

The 1956 Forest Fire Record

By L. F. COOK, Chief Forester
National Park Service

THE forest fire record of the National Park Service for the first eleven months of 1956 has been relatively good despite conditions which made it a difficult one for fire control. Far more lightning-caused fires started in the parks than during any of the previous thirty years, but at the same time there were fewer man-caused fires than had been reported for any year since 1932. The severe drought of the Southwest continued as it has for several years, adding to the severity of the forest protection problem in an area already severely damaged.

Lightning fires caused the most concern. Several were started before or after the normal period when seasonal employees are available. Large numbers were started in several parks. During the week of July 18-24, at least ninety-four occurred in the California parks alone. Many started in the most inaccessible rugged mountainous back country. Sequoia and Kings Canyon national parks alone reported more than a hundred fires, including a few man-caused. These concentrations of fires, occurring at the same time as numerous fires in the adjacent forests, and at a time when many visitors were in the areas, created terrific problems requiring rapid mobilization and assignment of experienced men and equipment. Every fire is a serious threat and must be promptly and efficiently attended to or it quickly becomes large and destructive. That so few of them did so, attests to the efficiency of control operation.

One of the most interesting and important features of the record is that fewer man-caused fires have been reported as having been started inside the parks this year than during any year since 1932. This is notable particularly because use

of the parks, which exceeded 50,000,000 visitors, is the greatest on record. Only 146 man-caused fires have been reported. It should be noted that "visitors" are not indicated as having been responsible for many of these fires. Too large a proportion is due to activities of local people who live or work in and near the parks or who merely travel through them in commuting. The intensive fire prevention efforts by the National Park Service and others, which have been directed specifically at reduction of visitors' smoker and camper fires apparently have resulted in marked reduction in the numbers from these causes. The publicity and intensified law enforcement by all agencies, particularly in the South, are reflected in a reduced number of incendiary fires. Debris burning continues to present a problem, however.

Total area burned over during the eleven months is approximately 6840 acres, which is considerably below the average annual loss. Forest area burned was 2900 acres, brushland fifty acres and grass 3890 acres. There were only eleven fires that burned more than a hundred acres each, inside park areas; of these, six were lightning caused and included the largest and also most of the more costly fires to control.

The increasing cost of fire control during recent years continues to be of concern to fire control agencies, including this Service. The large concentration of lightning fires in inaccessible places, where long travel time is involved, contributed to the high costs this year and made even small fires comparatively expensive to put out.

The National Park Service has stressed for many years intensive fire control training, including safety for all its employees

and the development of a strong organizational plan of action, including cooperative control with other agencies. The value of such advance preparation was demonstrated during the periods when so many fires occurred at the same time. No serious accidents occurred during the year on fires

that burned inside parks and monuments.

The Southwestern Indian Fire Fighters continue to give an excellent account of themselves. The National Park Service again participated in their organization and training and called upon them for assistance on several park fires.

THE SOCIALE CONY

(Continued from page 22)

as he could, always inside the wall, of course, and give forth with his most penetrating "eh." Slinky marten would freeze on the alert, and then pace greedily back and forth searching futilely for a way to make that saucy sound and savory scent his very own. The raccoons also received their share of teasing, but once they were wise to the situation, spoiled the cony's fun by ignoring him.

When springtime arrived, with six feet of snow still on the ground, our friendship with Pinecone came into full bloom.

We returned from town late one evening. As I dashed into the kitchen to fire up the wood stove and prepare supper, I saw a grayish object, which I took to be a mouse, skitter under the automatic washer. On investigation, we found it to be none other than Sir Pika Cony Rock Rabbit himself!

The following evening, I sat with Del on the couch reading aloud to him. Suddenly we heard a rustling in the office, which adjoins the living room, and a moment later Pinecone appeared in the doorway and cocked his head at us. He made a short run into the room and then paused to eye us; a few more quick steps and another pause, not more than a yard from our feet. Finally he darted into the dinette, returning at once to stare at us from behind the archway. Then, after a little nosing around and a hurried nibble on a piece of baked potato that had escaped the broom, he scooted out the way he had come in.

For the next ten days the cony made regular social calls. We could never deter-

mine whether it was because of his flair for dangerous living, whether he had grown so fond of us that he wanted closer contact, whether he wanted to make a habitat study of *Homo sapiens*, or whether his hay stack had given out.

Amusingly and intelligently he tried to adjust to our way of doing things. For instance, a turn to the left after entering through the office doorway meant he was headed for the kitchen and a bit of scrounging, or sometimes just to peer at us. If, on the other hand, he made a right turn, he was headed for the bathroom—and that is the only place we ever found his droppings, always in the same area near the bathtub.

Now if further facts are requisite as regards the sociability and superior IQ of a pika—or at least our pika—this should suffice: During the time that Pinecone discarded his coyness and became bold enough to visit in our very domain, a rent raise notice was given us and waited on the office desk for Del's signature. Pinecone, no doubt sizing up the gravity of the situation and realizing that, being an occupant, he had a perfect right to voice his objection, proceeded to gnaw a chunk out of the form (the only paper he ever molested). The rent increase did not stick—could have been the bite behind the cony's protest.

The day came when we had to leave our little friend's future to another tenant, who promptly filled in all of the cony's escape hatches and reports that he emigrated from the area. Perhaps he has returned to normal pika pastimes in a little rock haven all his own, and is busy spinning adventure yarns to his youngsters about martens and men.

STUDENT CONSERVATION PROGRAM

TWO YEARS' PLANNING is being completed for a Student Conservation Program, sponsored by the National Parks Association, to help solve the critical manpower shortage in the national parks and monuments, and to build a reservoir of potential employees for the National Park Service and other governmental and private organizations. Under this program, which is to be tested at Grand Teton and Olympic national parks this summer, selected high school and college students may work on a volunteer basis on various activities under National Park Service direction.

Sixteen college or graduate students will be accepted for eight weeks in Grand Teton. They will work in all of the park divisions as assistants to the rangers, naturalists, landscape architects, and construction and administrative staffs. The program provides billets for several women under the park naturalist. During their free time, the students will be encouraged to explore the park and learn all they can about national park principles and administration. Field trips will be arranged, and the other agencies working in the area, such as the U. S. Forest Service, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Jackson Hole Biological Research Station, are cooperating to ensure the students gain understanding of their activities. The Association is fortunate in securing the services of Dr. and Mrs. Harold C. Bryant, former Superintendent of Grand Canyon National Park and founder of the Yosemite Field School of Natural History, to supervise this project under Superintendent Francis R. Oberhansley.

At Olympic National Park, the program has several facets. There, two groups of fifteen high school students will restore nature trails, and they will live in a tent camp of their own. The first group will spend most of July in the park; the second group will be there in August. Mr.

Charles Maiden, of Olympic College, will supervise this part of the program, and conduct the boys on field trips into the more remote parts of the park. In addition, three or four college students who are majoring in biology or wildlife will have opportunity to undertake field investigations on wildlife problems under the park biologist for the entire summer. The park naturalist has urged that a graduate student be included who can do independent geological research in the park. In addition, three college women are needed to help organize the new Pioneer Museum, which has just been built.

This program has been designed carefully to benefit not only the Park Service, but also the students. In today's competitive world, academic training must be supplemented with practical experience. By working a few weeks in the national parks in close coordination with the park staffs, the students will gain an insight into the reasons why national parks are an essential part of the American culture, and how they are administered. Then, when they graduate, they will be better prepared to step into Park Service positions, or into related fields. Schools and universities with which this project has been discussed agree it warrants recognition and they have indicated that in many cases it should be possible for the students to secure academic credit for the experience. The knowledge acquired of how to live in the outdoors also will be valuable, and those who participate in the project will enhance their understanding of the concepts that are fundamental to ensuring protection for the nation's priceless outdoor heritage.

The Association and the Park Service will provide the necessary equipment and board and lodging for the students, while they are in the parks, although no salary is involved. This is a volunteer program, an opportunity for outstanding young peo-

ple to devote their summer to service. Financial support has been given generously by the Conservation Foundation, Jackson Hole Preserves, Inc., The Old Dominion Trust, The Wilderness Society, the American Nature Association, the National Wildlife Federation, and by the Bennington, Vermont, Garden Club.

Applications for participation and further information may be obtained from Association headquarters and must be filled in and returned by March 15. Final selection of the

students will be made shortly thereafter. This experimental summer offers a challenge to the students, because if they prove their worth to the national park program, the Park Service will be encouraged to include this kind of activity as part of its official operation and expand it to other national parks. If that is done, the National Parks Association and the other organizations that are supporting the program, believe they will have made a contribution to the welfare of the national parks.

TO BUILD A FIRM FOUNDATION

FOR the past three years, a generous member has offered the National Parks Association \$3000 a year for its work, on condition that the amount be matched from other sources. The response from the membership has been more than gratifying, several times the amount having been raised each year. These funds have enabled the Association to increase its efficiency, support its western office, and undertake new activities that long had been deferred. Because of this evidence of the sincere interest of the members, the same donor (who wishes to remain anonymous) has expressed his belief that the Association should now establish its activities on a firm foundation by increasing its Endowment Fund. To this end, he has offered to give one-quarter of an anticipated total of \$225,000, when the balance is in hand.

The Endowment Fund was established ten years ago to provide revenue from securities and investments to supplement the Association's income from membership dues. Although no general appeal has ever been made to the membership to support this fund, it has grown to \$60,000, or about one-third of the amount required to meet this challenge.

An organization that issues as expensive a publication as NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE cannot depend on membership dues alone for its many activities. Twice during

the past ten years the magazine has been increased in size without increasing the dues, and color has been added to it. At the same time, many new activities have been undertaken. The existence of the Endowment Fund, small as it was at the beginning, enabled the Association to secure underwriting for publication of *Exploring Our National Parks and Monuments*, and other such projects have been possible because of the stability so provided. This same solidity has enabled the Association to open its western office. Other activities have been undertaken, so that, whereas the budget in 1950 was under \$30,000, the current program requires more than \$60,000 annually.

This is healthy growth; but it can be sustained and progress continue only if the budget rests on a sound base. That base is the Endowment Fund. The Board of Trustees does not believe we should ask the membership to contribute repeatedly to the operating fund. Rather, such special contributions should be used to build the permanent security of the Association and provide assured income. There are many vital projects the Association can undertake if its foundation is sound. Materials to mail out in response to hundreds of requests from school children and teachers are urgently needed. The National Association of Biology Teachers wants 8000

copies of each issue of NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE for its educators, which can be provided when the cost of the additional printing can be covered. The western office has made a fine start toward stimulating increased interest in the welfare of the national parks in the West; but it is impeded by inadequate funds to work with.

Other projects are awaiting financing.

So the National Parks Association invites its members to join in building its Endowment Fund. Through their efforts, the Association can realize its full potential for the benefit of the national parks and the nation.

—Sigurd F. Olson, *President*.

NEWS COLUMNS AVAILABLE

THE National Parks Association now issues two columns that are available without charge to any newspapers that would like to carry them. *Our Native Land*, written by Jean R. Packard, Director of Information, is released every two weeks from headquarters in Washington, and is especially designed for use by the weekly newspapers of the country. It is informal in style, including discussion of parks and out-of-the-way places of general interest, and of current national park and conservation problems. *Conservation on the March*, by our Western Representative C. Edward Graves, has been running weekly in the Carmel, California, *Pine Cone-Cymbal* for several years, and is now being distributed to western conservationists and editors. While it emphasizes developments in western affairs and in national problems of interest to the West, it is of equal value to the newspapers of every state.

These columns are intended to broaden the base of the Association's influence, to reach down into the grassroots level of public thinking, and to invite the attention of people who heretofore have had little understanding of the fundamentals of national parks and conservation. The weekly press is a most powerful medium for developing these attitudes because these papers are read thoroughly by their subscribers, instead of being skimmed quickly as the metropolitan press usually is. They require a particular kind of writing, learned only by experience. Mrs. Packard is a journalism graduate of the University of

Montana, and for some years was editor of the Clermont (Ohio) Sun. Mr. Graves' long experience as a librarian and his thorough knowledge of myriad facets of the outdoors and its protection provide him with unusual qualifications for this kind of writing.

In order to expand the usefulness of these series, it will be most helpful if members of the Association will invite the attention of their local editors to the availability of these columns. Editors may write association headquarters for them.

LETTERS

A Bureau for Historic Sites

I was particularly interested in your article (*Do Our Historic Areas Deserve the Dignity of a Separate Bureau?*, NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE for October-December 1956) concerning a separate bureau for the historic areas. I, for one, think it would be advisable and am for it. I also liked the article by Mr. Engle on *Stopping the Military Land-Grab*. The *California Farmer*, which is California's oldest agricultural paper, often has articles concerning this in our state. They have not only taken the land, but the water and mineral rights, and are loathe to give any of it back to its rightful owners. The *Territorial Enterprise* of Virginia City, Nevada, has had something to say, too.

Miss Virginia Wilson
Napa, California

My judgment is that the historic sites be a separate division of the Park Service. They have done a fine job, and what is also im-

portant, the public mind associates the sites with the park authority.

On architecture, I am right with you. I am at a loss to understand the thinking of an architect who prescribes an angular oddity of bizarre color. I thought park architects tried to build from native materials and tried to follow a harmonizing style and uniformity for each park. There is no place for architectural whims in our national parks.

Regarding Petrified Forest (*What Is the Difference Between National Parks and National Monuments*, NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE for July-September 1956), I believe it should remain a monument. Certainly it is not of national park caliber.

Coming to the question of the church at the rim of the Grand Canyon, (*Shrine of the Ages Chapel*, NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE for April-June 1956), does anyone really think it is more of an effort to afford a place of worship than just another tourist attraction? Certainly the sponsors know that it would become just another place for tourists to go, and not a place for those who need the quiet of a sanctuary.

Ski lifts have no place in a national park. They have no relation at all with the primary purpose of the parks. Yes, there are a lot of problems, and I am glad the Association is in there pitching.

Raymond H. Euston
Glendale, California

After reading the article, *Do Our Historic Areas Deserve the Dignity of a Separate Bureau*, several times, it seems to me that I favor dividing the National Park Service and each division have separate personnel, and each head serve as an assistant director to the present Park Service director.

Glenn W. Stevens
Ward Hill, Massachusetts

The argument that national parks and historic monuments require different administrative personnel seems cogent and compelling. But my mind reverted to the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal. Here we have some 185 miles of unspoiled riverside woodlands, sprinkled throughout with many historic canal buildings. What would happen here?

D. K. Bradley
New York, N. Y.

● The C and O Canal is ideal for inclusion under the proposed historic sites bureau. There is no reason why the wild lands and recreational features of the canal area should undergo a change if administered by the proposed new bureau.—*Editor.*

The trouble with the government is too many different sections trying to do about the same thing. What is needed is efficient management under one head, with different divisions looking after the various sorts of property being administered.

Arthur B. Stewart
Baltimore, Maryland

I think the idea has a great deal of merit, and every believer in the national park idea should realize that eventually we are going to have to face the problem, and we had best do it now before the situation gets out of hand. The interpretation and protection of the man-made should be left to another body, which can devote time and skill to this work that is just as important, in its way, as the motivating concepts behind our great natural parks.

Should Petrified Forest National Monument be made a national park (*What Is the Difference between National Parks and Monuments*, NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE for July-September 1956)? My answer is: It is relatively unimportant and irrelevant what we call it. The character and the protection of the area are the important things.

J. F. Carithers
Tucson, Arizona

In the October-December 1956 issue of NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE you have discussed the question of a separate bureau for the strictly historical reservations. This has been discussed before, and it is really a difficult question. There are, of course, the members of the personnel who are employed to administer the historical reservations and the national parks. We have here two very distinct concepts, and they should not be confused. There is the human history concept. At the other extreme is our national park system. This is

an important subject and I don't know the whole answer. It occurs to me that what we need is a national policy. These matters should not be subject to decisions by the whims of administrators. They should be resolved by collaboration of government officials and those many interested people throughout the country; an un hurried appraisal of the whole situation on a democratic basis. We are building for the future, and some of our decisions may be irrevocable.

Olaus J. Murie
Moose, Wyoming

If they need especial attention, let the Park Service assign one of its present groups to be in charge of a division of the Service. The writer and his wife are unalterably opposed to the establishment of any more bureaus in Washington.

Evan R. Nash
Hanford, California

Glacier Peak

You are to be congratulated for thus calling the attention of the members of the Association to the significance of the Glacier Peak region to the entire nation (*The Glacier Peak Wilderness*, NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE for October-December 1956).

Grant McConnell
Berkeley, California

Jenkins Is Found

I have just been reading an article in NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE (*Before the Invasion*, October-December 1956 issue) a story written by Eloise C. Miles. I was the stage driver who drove the coach she rode in, and I would like it very much if you would send me her address. The time she went by stage coach through Yellowstone Park was about the year 1907, and I was, I think, the youngest stage driver in the park. I was taught the science of four- and six-horse driving from the time I was about twelve years old, by my father, who was an overland six-horse stage driver before the railroads were built through Idaho and Montana. Before I was admitted in Yellowstone as an expert linesman, my Dad and I hauled freight through the mountain country, in and out of Yellowstone for several years. I drove the four-horse

coaches in there for twelve summers and was at the head of the last coach party that ever went through the park, September 20, 1915. It took five days to make the trip.

Del Jenkins
Jackson, Wyoming

Shrine of the Ages

I observed in the October-December 1956 issue of NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE the letters of protest against the proposed construction of the Shrine of the Ages Chapel in Grand Canyon National Park. I should like to add another voice of dissent to the building of such a chapel, for I believe, with the others, that it would be out of keeping with the spirit and purpose of our national park system. It is paradoxical that the official view of the National Park Service, as expressed by Mr. C. L. Wirth, favors such a shrine, whereas the National Park Service heretofore has championed the concept that our wilderness or scenic areas should be distorted as little as possible by human artifacts. I believe that most visitors to the Grand Canyon would prefer to commune with the absolute reality as they do now, without the interposition of any sort of church.

Modestine G. Criscitiello
Norwich, Vermont

It seems to me that Mr. Wirth is on very shaky ground in his rationalization of the need for a church in Grand Canyon (*The Park Service on the Shrine of the Ages*, NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE for July-September 1956). He overlooks an elementary fact—namely, that the canyon itself is a religious shrine, not a shrine to any particular faith or faiths, but to the spirit that created this vast panorama of beauty. It seems to me that the high-pressure advertising, the flossy circulars and the ballyhoo which the fund-raisers for the project have adopted, smack of commercialism, and prey upon the gullible. I am amazed that responsible ministers will lend their names to this affair, and that the director of the Park Service will give it his blessing.

Anthony Netboy
Portland, Oregon

We would like to commend the Association for its stand on the opposition to building a

Shrine of the Ages. We are wholeheartedly in accord with your views. Opposing the building of a church anywhere is perhaps not the most popular thing to do, and we, along with the Association, are not against erection of any church—merely the suggested location of this one. We think perhaps a church is needed, but we urge that it be built elsewhere than on the rim. One suggestion would be to build it at the outside of the entrance, on Highway 64. This would enable people visiting the park and park personnel to worship without driving too many miles, and would still preserve the grandeur of the park.

Stanley E. Little
National Campers and Hikers Ass'n
Newark, New Jersey

Glacier Bay Access

There are several ways of looking at the problem of rendering Glacier Bay National Monument accessible for use, and if the average visitor is to get into the back country, then airplanes may be indicated. (*Adventure in Alaska*, NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE for July-September 1956.) It has appeared to me, after two visits aggregating three weeks in the area, that the major spectacles are viewed to advantage from the waterways. Of course, the scene from a plane is grand, but travelers in boats can inspect at least four glaciers—Muir, Johns Hopkins, Reid and Grand Pacific—as close as safety permits, and look at several other smaller ones from a short distance. Relatively short hikes of a mile or two can be made now through the forest by using the gravel bars along the rivers. Trails can be constructed so that the hiker can climb above tree-line, where he can walk great distances between the glaciers or ice fields. This, I'm sure, would be enough to satisfy almost anyone. The bears are a hazard, of course, but about ninety-five percent of the hazard is mental.

As between noisy boats and noisy airplanes, we may not have much choice. My impression is that the boat is almost lost in the vastness of Glacier Bay, and its diesel or gasoline motor does not make its influence felt more than a mile or two. The plane, on the other hand, has a penetrating drone and yanks one's mind back out of the wilderness

in a hurry. I hope that the Park Service doesn't set up Glacier Bay as a half-day tour attraction from the Juneau airport, including lunch at Sandy Cove. If simple overnight accommodations are set up at Gustavus or in Beartrack Cove, two all-day boat trips would give the visitor a good concept of the entire bay. Short walks could be taken ashore in the forest and for views of the glaciers. In bad weather (of which there is much; that's what keeps the glaciers going!) the boat passenger gets something out of his visit, while the plane traveler can't even start.

Incidentally, the "hereditary rights" of the Hoonah Indians to hunt seals in Glacier Bay are little better than the interests of the Mohawks on Manhattan Island, even if we agree that twenty-four dollars was too low for New York real estate in 1626. Seal hunting in Glacier Bay goes back less than two centuries; as late as 1792 the bay was filled with one vast ice-river down to the Beardsley Islands. The facts are as follows: In the hope that the Hoonah natives would cease their vociferous opposition to the monument, they were allowed, in 1939, to hunt seals in the sanctuary. The natives were not appeased—they still claim the entire monument. The establishment of this group privilege has caused considerable difficulty in protecting other wildlife in the area. It has also aroused public resentment in southeastern Alaska among the whites on the grounds of discrimination.

Victor H. Cahalane
Albany, New York

Petrified Forest

I have read with interest your article, *What Is the Difference between National Parks and National Monuments* (NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE for July-September 1956). There is a difference no one with experience can deny. I have been to Petrified Forest. In my opinion it emphatically does not meet the standards of the great national parks—not by a very long shot.

C. F. Beatty
Scarsdale, New York

This monument does not qualify for national park status in our opinion. The area's main features are all interesting, but they cannot compare with the features of our great

parks. We visited the monument this summer and feel that a redesignation would be unfortunate.

John H. Huber
Syracuse, New York

Your attempt to distinguish parks from monuments calls for rebuttal. An area which is primarily scenic, whether or not it has mountains or trees, which is unique or superior, should be a national park. My inclination, therefore, would be to favor park status for Petrified Forest. At the risk of being criticized for selfishness—which in no way motivates this statement—I say that White Sands National Monument also qualifies.

Bob Koonce
White Sands Concession Co.
Alamogordo, New Mexico

I just don't see where it has the qualifications for national park status.

Wayne S. Pritchard
Tacoma, Washington

Certainly the Petrified Forest should have park status, and then it should be developed so that the public could see it with comfort.

Bessie Shook
Tenton, Texas

In your July-September issue I read with interest the article *What Is the Difference between National Parks and Monuments?* Since I have been to the Petrified Forest and the Painted Desert three or four times, it goes without saying that I enjoy it, but attractive and interesting as that region is, it falls far short of the national parks with which I am equally familiar. There is no comparison. I would think the classification as a national monument was sufficient. The article was an excellent one.

H. Earl Hoover
Glencoe, Illinois

Let us hope that the issue concerning the status of Petrified Forest may encourage a clean sweep-down, during Mission 66, on the whole question of park and monument status. The general public still is ignorant of basic purposes of the national park system, and continues to pour through the checking stations of our parks in search of resort hotels,

tile swimming pools, and casinos, with the scenery a glamorous backdrop. But there are growing numbers who come to the parks searching for spiritual and mental inspiration in the presence of superlative natural beauty. Is it not for these deep, intangible values that our parks were first set aside? If that is so, then there is a desperate need to educate the public into a clear understanding of that essential fact, and to be explicit in distinguishing our national parks from all other areas as lands set aside for a very unique and special purpose. We profane that purpose when we confer park status upon areas that are not the most supreme examples of natural beauty. It does not seem that Petrified Forest is unique or superlative enough to permit it to rank among the national parks. And it surely would be placed in unfair competition with the splendor of its near neighbor—the Grand Canyon—were it accorded the same rank!

Bob W. Prudhomme
Monrovia, Liberia

This summer I visited Petrified Forest and about nine national parks. Think it should keep status of a national monument.

Harriett Babcock
La Mesa, California

Mission 66, Noisy Motorboats

Please send me the brochure *Mission 66*. I am particularly interested, having camped in many of the national parks this past summer. I do not want the parks to become too civilized. We drove to Bowman Lake in the western part of Glacier National Park, thinking "now we will find a remote beauty spot without civilization." There were plenty of people in what is an outstandingly beautiful place—and the days were made hideous by the loud and noisy engines of fishermen's motorboats. To us it was offensive, especially when much of the time they seemed to be simply showing off, speeding around the lake. I do wish noisy motorboats, with owners out for a fast ride, could be outlawed in such places. In general, the rangers were excellent, but they knew less about the parks than we.

Mrs. Hilton W. Long
Dover, Massachusetts

● Mrs. Long has our sympathy. The Association years ago recognized the inconsistency of permitting the distracting, discordant intrusion of noisy power boats inside national parks and monuments, and has discussed with Park Service officials the highly desirable objective of eliminating all noisy privately-owned power boats from park lakes and rivers. It is indeed regrettable that the Service continues to allow the disturbing influence to persist, not only on the lakes of Glacier National Park, but in such parks as Grand Teton and Yellowstone, where even the concessioner has been given the right to operate speedboats. We have recommended the use of quiet sight-seeing launches for operation by concessioners, such as are now in use in Glacier National Park.—Editor.

The Magazine

Someone gave me a copy of your splendid NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE. Never having seen it before, I deeply appreciate this copy

with its beautiful illustrations and interesting information.

Herbert Eberhardt
Washington, D. C.

Just a note of appreciation for your fine issue of October-December 1956. Also to express again my deepest thanks that you had the energy, time and ability to produce *Seeing America's Wildlife*. I have distributed numerous copies where I thought they would help in spreading the gospel.

Mrs. Herbert Weston
Beatrice, Nebraska

National Parks Book

It is with the keenest pleasure I am ordering your book as a present for my husband. I've borrowed it time and again from the village library, particularly before the trip we made last summer to Oregon. It was of the greatest value. How we loved every minute of those days. We cooked and camped and can't wait to get off again—such marvels of beauty on all sides.

Mrs. Julian Carter
Millbrook, New York

WILDERNESS PRESERVATION SYSTEM

DURING the closing days of the 84th Congress, a bill to establish a wilderness system was introduced by Senator Hubert Humphrey and other Senators, and by Representative John Saylor. Identical bills also were introduced by other representatives, giving the measure broad bipartisan support. They were favorably received and represent a major opportunity for the 85th Congress.

According to Senator Humphrey, no changes in jurisdiction would be involved, and no new land-administering agency created. Agencies now protecting wilderness areas simply would be charged by Congress to preserve the wilderness character of the lands. At present, he stated, there are no laws to protect these areas as wilderness, only administrative regulations and decrees. Now, for the first time, they would have congressional sanction. "This is the

last chance," Humphrey said, "to preserve wilderness on this continent, for we are on the verge of an era where pressures to destroy it will become greater than anything we have ever experienced."

Being introduced in the 85th Congress, these bills already have aroused both support and opposition. Their language shows they will invoke no hardships either on the agencies or on the legal users. If the wilderness concept is valid and the services responsible for wilderness are sincere, then their enactment should be welcomed by all. Association members, concerned with preservation of the primeval aspects of the parks and monuments, feel that here is what Congress meant when it directed, in the 1916 Act, to *leave them unimpaired*. The wilderness bills would supplement this Act and ensure that the areas be kept unimpaired.

THE EDITOR'S BOOKSHELF

THE MAMMALS OF SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK, by Richard H. Manville. Published by the Shenandoah Natural History Association, Shenandoah National Park, Luray, Virginia. 1956. Illustrated. Paper cover. Seventy pages. Price \$1.

This is an attractive booklet, and one that should fill a need for visitors wishing to know something more about the park than can be learned merely by touring Skyline Drive. In addition to the general text, there is a check list of mammal species giving brief data on the occurrence of each in the park.

Throughout our country, except in the national parks and other such inviolate sanctuaries, wildlife, particularly most of the mammals, are declining; and this is to a great extent the result of human ignorance and prejudice. This little booklet might have been a great deal more effective than it is in building a better human attitude toward wildlife. The statement "who can assay the pleasure gained by the hunter in quest of deer, raccoon or squirrel . . .?" seems hardly to better the position of the wild creatures. Writing about the white-tailed deer, the author says "This magnificent creature, the best known of American large game animals, is familiar to most sportsmen . . ." is similarly unfitted for a national park publication. Farther along, in the discussion about the deer, is this: "Once wolves and mountain lions were the principal natural enemies of deer, but now wild-running dogs take the place of these predators, at least to some degree, while bobcats and foxes occasionally kill young fawns." Why did not the author here take the opportunity to enlighten his readers about the value of natural predation in the control of deer herds to build a sympathetic, more humane attitude toward the so-called predators?

It is hoped that the Shenandoah Natural History Association will soon bring out

additional booklets on the natural history of Shenandoah, but that they will show a keener feeling toward their subjects. No chance to increase public understanding and create a stronger appreciation of all nature should be missed by Park Service people. They should point out, wherever appropriate in their writings, that species of almost all kinds, both plant and animal, are declining, as our last unprotected wild lands are taken over for human use; that wild, natural landscapes are fast disappearing, and that a basic purpose of national parks and national monuments is to preserve a few small remnants of the once primeval continent as nature made it for ourselves and coming generations to see.

—D. B.

OCMULGEE NATIONAL MONUMENT, by G. D. Pope, Jr. Printed by the Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C. 1956. Illustrated. Paper cover. Fifty-eight pages. Price 25 cents.

This is number 24 in the Historical Handbook Series of the National Park Service. It is absorbingly interesting, for it tells the story of the prehistoric civilization that thrived long ago at the site we call Ocmulgee National Monument, on the outskirts of Macon, Georgia. The booklet opens with a discussion about how and when man first came to this continent. While much is not known about the arrival of man, a surprisingly large amount of factual information derived from various sources has been pieced together, so that we do have a reasonably accurate picture of when, where and how.

The story of Ocmulgee is fascinating, and anyone planning to visit the national monument will find the occasion vastly more rewarding if he will read this booklet in advance.

Only one other in the list of twenty-four Historical Handbook Series is about a pre-

Columbian national monument area, all the others being about sites and buildings relating to United States history. We hope the Park Service will prepare more such booklets not only about prehistoric sites, but also about the national parks and national nature monuments, which are equally far behind in number, by comparison with those on historic sites.—D. B.

ARCHEOLOGY OF THE FUNERAL MOUND, Ocmulgee National Monument, by Charles H. Fairbanks, with introduction by Frank M. Setzler. Printed by the Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C. Illustrated. Paper cover. Ninety-five pages. Index. Price \$1.

This is number 3 in the Research Series of the National Park Service. It is a report covering the various periods and cultural horizons of the Macon Plateau as revealed through excavation work carried on from December, 1933, to April, 1934, as a Civil Works Administration project under the direction of Smithsonian Institution archaeologists, and after that date, under the sponsorship of the Society for Georgia Archeology and the Macon Chamber of Commerce. It is a well compiled, extremely valuable record of one of the most interesting phases of the primeval continent.—D. B.

BEARS IN MY KITCHEN, by Margaret Merrill. Published by McGraw-Hill Company. New York. 1956. 249 pages. \$3.95.

Margaret Merrill began her life as a ranger's wife when she married Bill in the Yosemite Valley in 1930. Her book is the account of their adventures in many national parks. It is also the story of the growth of her own appreciation and perception as she learned to live in the wilderness.

In one sense, it is a hilarious book. She is a talented raconteur and knows how to glean the humor from daily incidents. Her first qualm in the outdoors, for instance, was caused by the staring eyes of curious

bears that supervised her bathing. And the methods Bill used to educate tenderfoot temporary rangers under him involve a lot of humor—on both sides.

This is a readable book. It is also thought-provoking. Every spring, dozens of letters from young people cross our desk, asking how they can become park rangers. Sometimes it is evident the glamour of the uniform is the incentive, or the romance of a life in the open under starry skies. Too seldom do these boys realize how rugged a ranger's life is, and how versatile and competent he must be. Spine-tingling danger is a routine part of the job. Over and over again Mrs. Merrill describes the risks her husband takes as a matter of course—his instant response to rescue climbers from the face of Half Dome or visitors snowbound miles in the wilderness, to tackle criminals who do not hesitate to shoot to kill, or to fight fires beyond the limit of exhaustion.

There is a large measure of heroism in this book. There is also a quality that makes the reader ever more proud of the men who wear the Park Service uniform, and of the devotion of their wives to their service. The rangers' wives are the unpaid staff of the national parks; they contribute in their way as essentially as do the rangers. To understand the meaning of the parks, and their importance to the American people, through the eyes of a ranger's wife, is to gain greater appreciation for them.—F.M.P.

WESTERN WONDERLANDS, a Guide to Bird Habitats of the Western United States, by John L. Blackford. Published by Vantage Press Inc., New York. 1956. Illustrated. 120 pages. Index. Price \$5.

Mr. Blackford is well known to lovers of the outdoors for his inspiring articles that appear regularly in such publications as *Nature Magazine*, *Canadian Nature* and *Audubon Magazine*. His book was written with the realization that the hobby of bird-watching can be made more interesting

and rewarding if one has an understanding of the relationships of bird species to their habitats. Writing about his own experience, the author says "Once more a motor hike through western birdlands was proving the value of acquaintance with avian habitats. It had been possible quickly to discover leading members of one bird community after another. Seeking wildlife in this way was like calling upon famous personalities, each at his home address."

The first chapter acquaints the layman with the several life zones in so simple and interesting a way that he is enabled readily to recognize any of them while in the field. There is an explanation of forest layering in its relation to birds, and a discussion of plant and animal succession and bird habitats. The larger part of the book, ninety-two pages of it, serves as a guide to what birds dwell in what habitat. It begins with the Lower Sonoran zone—the hot, dry desert of the Southwest—and includes the various kinds of environment in the several zones—coast redwoods, fresh water marsh, Pacific sea beach, grassland, southwestern oak, piñon-juniper and all the rest; and with each is listed its characteristic trees and smaller plants, followed by a listing of the bird species to be found there. Here is indeed a new and fascinating approach to birdwatching—the ecological

approach. The book should prove of value not only to western bird enthusiasts, but also to eastern birders vacationing in the West, for it will aid in knowing what to look for wherever one happens to be. The text is supplemented by a set of ninety-six plates containing black and white reproductions of some of the finest bird photography to be seen anywhere. Most of the photographs are by the author.—D. B.

OREGON STATE PARK SYSTEM, a Brief History, by Samuel H. Boardman. Published by the Oregon Historical Society, Portland, Oregon. 1956. Illustrated. Paper cover. Sixty-two pages. Price 85 cents.

This is a series of articles written by a former superintendent of Oregon state parks. It not only describes fifteen or so of the larger areas, but tells the story of the acquisition of each, many of them having been obtained and placed under state protection only after a long and persistent struggle. Oregon is one of the most advanced states in the field of park establishment, and this story of progress should serve as an inspiration to other states, which today are showing less interest in nature protection and wilderness preservation, and it should encourage them to get busy.—D. B.

SEASHORE SURVEY

(Continued from page 6)

the year 2000 we will have reached the fantastic total of 300,000,000. Our population will have doubled in less than a lifetime."

It is plain to see that if any wild seashore is to be saved, there is no time to lose. The 1955 survey identified and reported on 126 undeveloped areas, of which seventy-two were eliminated from further consideration because they lacked recreation potentialities or were unavailable for public use. That left only fifty-four areas, which contain about 640 miles of beach and comprise

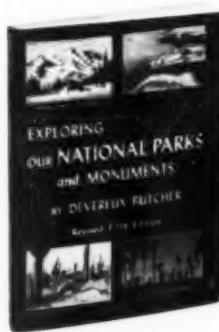
seventeen percent of the Atlantic and Gulf coasts combined. They constitute the major remaining opportunities for preservation of natural seashore. Of the fifty-four areas, the survey considers sixteen as deserving highest priority for acquisition. From Maine to Texas, they are:

In Maine, Popham-St. John south of Bath, and the Crescent Area south of Portland; in Massachusetts, Great Beach on outer Cape Cod; in New York, Shinnecock Inlet and Fire Island on Long Island; in Virginia, Parramore Island off the eastern shore; in North Carolina, Bogue Banks

Exploring Our National Parks and Monuments

Revised fifth edition

With 16 pages in color



Exploring Our National Parks, in its 5th edition, reaches a new peak of perfection. Texts are up to date, new photographs have been added, information value is increased, and many dangers threatening continued preservation of the parks are brought to light. Nationally recognized as the standard book on the subject, its total printing now stands at 100,000 copies.

Exploring Our National Parks serves as reference and guide, for it vividly describes, in 314 pages, the 26 national parks, 34 nature monuments and 17 archeological monuments, tells how to reach them by train, bus and automobile, what to see and do and where to stay. The *Introduction* by Sigurd F. Olson superbly expresses the human need for wilderness. *You are the Guest of Nature* offers hints on how more fully to enjoy a park and suggests ways you may help protect it from vandalism. *Temples Not Built with Hands*, the lead chapter, describes natural beauty, explains some administrative problems, and tells

how you, as an owner of the parks, can help defend them from predatory interests.

But **Exploring Our National Parks** is much more than a guide. Its crowning glory is its collection of more than 300 photographs. Here are the island-dotted seascape of Acadia, the fantastic bird life of Everglades, the delicate beauty of Bryce Canyon and the overwhelming color and majesty of Grand Canyon. Here, too, are pictured the fantasy of the underground world of Carlsbad Caverns, the geysers of Yellowstone, the splendor of Yosemite. The black and white photographs reveal the beauty of line, form and light; while a sixteen-page insert and the new brilliant jacket paint these wonders in glowing natural colors.

Three maps show the locations of all areas described.

This is a book no outdoor enthusiast can afford to be without. If you are planning a trip to the parks, the book is a necessity; and if you have spent joyous days seeing them, it will bring back a wealth of memories. Educators and legislators find it invaluable. Order your copy by filling in and mailing the coupon with your check today.

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south of Morehead City, and Smith Island south of Wilmington; in South Carolina, Debidue Island east of Georgetown, and Kiawah Island south of Charleston; in Georgia, Cumberland Island between Brunswick and the Florida line; in Florida, Mosquito Lagoon near Cape Canaveral on the east coast, Marco Beach south of Naples, and St. Joseph Spit south of Port St. Joe on the Gulf coast; in Texas, Padre Island between Corpus Christi and Port Isabel, and Brazos Island near the mouth of the Rio Grande.

The survey needed to be made, and we are most grateful to the National Park Service for having undertaken the work. We hope that before long a number of outstandingly fine areas will be placed in the care of either the states or the National Park Service itself.

If there is need to criticize the survey report at all, it is perhaps fitting to point out that, in the opinion of this reviewer, there appears to have been an overemphasis on the recreational possibilities of the areas, and not nearly enough consideration given to their potentialities for permanently preserving coastal plant and wildlife habitats. Accessibility and nearness to big population centers seem to weigh too heavily in their selection and evaluation and, while these considerations are important, there is a very real and growing urgency to set aside natural seashore areas as a means toward landscape protection and species preservation. It is noted that a number of areas that are still undisturbed, and that must unquestionably have high value for wildlife, were tossed out because they were not accessible, or because they would not contribute sufficiently toward human recreation—bathing. It seems well to realize that large numbers of bathers on a beach are not compatible with the use of the beach by colonies of nesting terns and feeding

and resting shorebirds. The report even recommends that agreements be worked out with the Fish and Wildlife Service for the use of beaches in refuges for public use—bathing. The refuges, which are already far too few, are serving their highest use to the nation as havens for wildlife, particularly migratory waterfowl and shorebirds. Their value should not be reduced as refuges, merely to provide more bathing grounds. Padre Island, in Texas, lies on the route of countless thousands of migrating land and shorebirds, particularly in spring, and it constitutes what almost certainly is the most spectacular spot in North America in this respect; yet the report about this area makes no mention of this fact, except to say that "Birdlife values are outstanding and historical values important." Does the National Park Service no longer regard itself as a nature protection and wilderness preservation agency, but rather an organization for the amusement of 165,000,000 people?

In discussing the possibility of the National Park Service taking over Great Beach on Cape Cod, certain newspapers in Massachusetts have spoken of the proposed area as a "national park." This reveals a lack of understanding of what constitutes a national park. Should the Park Service acquire the area, it properly would be designated a national seashore, and it would be in the same category with Cape Hatteras National Seashore in North Carolina.

It is encouraging to know that funds already are available for similar surveys of the Great Lakes shores and the Pacific coast.—D. B.

Anyone wishing more detailed information about the Seashore Recreation Area Survey may write to the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, Washington 25, D. C., and ask for the brochure *Our Vanishing Seashore*.

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THE NATIONAL PARKS AND YOU

Few people realize that ever since the first national parks and monuments were established, various commercial interests have been trying to invade them for personal gain. Lumber companies, hydroelectric and irrigation interests, mining groups and livestock raisers are among these, and some local communities seek to turn the parks into amusement resorts to attract crowds.

The national parks and monuments are not intended for such purposes. They are established as inviolate nature sanctuaries to preserve permanently outstanding examples of the once primeval continent, with no marring of landscapes except for reasonable access by road and trail, and facilities for visitor comfort. Attempts to force Congress and the National Park Service to ignore the national policy governing these sanctuaries are ceaseless and on the increase. People learning about this tendency are shocked, and ask that it be stopped. The Association, since its founding in 1919, has worked to create an ever-growing informed public on this matter in defense of the parks.

The Board of Trustees urges you to help protect this magnificent national heritage by joining forces with the Association now. As a member, you will be kept informed, through **NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE**, on current threats and other park matters, so that you may take action when necessary.

Dues are \$3 annual, \$5 supporting, \$10 sustaining, \$25 contributing, \$100 life with no further dues, and \$1000 patron with no further dues. Bequests, too, are needed to help carry on this park protection work. School and library subscriptions are \$2 a year. Dues, contributions and bequests are deductible from your federal taxable income. Send your check today, or write for further information, to the National Parks Association, 2144 P Street, N. W., Washington 7, D. C.

THE NATIONAL POLICY
TO KEEP MAN-MADE STRUCTURES
INCONSPICUOUS IN NATIONAL PARKS
IS FUNDAMENTAL AND COMPELLING,
AND HE WHO VIOLATES IT
IS SUBJECT TO CONDEMNATION
NOT ONLY BY PRESENT,
BUT ALSO FUTURE GENERATIONS

